

G. B. Archer

October 21st 1934

C. M. S. MEDICAL MISSION,
DOYABARI,
RANAGHAT,
BENGAL.

Dear Dr. Speer.

I have seen in the life of faith of the sorrow that has come to you in the death of your son - I send you my heart-felt sympathy - It is 30 years since I first met you at North Hill Student Conference in 1904. and my heart goes out to you & Mrs. Speer in this sorrow.

I think you know that Jack Dickson was my brother-in-law. Since his death his only sister Naomi has lost her sight and is now completely blind - My father-in-law is 83 - This a great anxiety - They are now living at 601 Sixth Ave. Hudson -
H. Carolinaville

May have to go home to
look after them as
they have no one with whom
they could live - Jack's
daughter Ethel has come home
but she was too young
and as she had a good
Scholarship she has gone to
College - They are very devoted
Christian people and it is
difficult to understand -
Your late missionary
Howard Anderson is a
very valued friend of mine
too.

With deepest sympathy
Dr Speer -

I am

yours in fellowship

G. B. Archer.

W. L. Allison

THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
(NORTH INDIA)

W. L. ALLISON

SECRETARY.

GWALIOR
INDIA.

18 October, 1934

My dear Dr. Speer,

While at General Board Meeting in Fatehgarh we learned the tragic news of the assassination of Mr. Elliott Speer. N.K. Mukerji at once spoke of sending you a cablegram but we decided to wait a day or two to have the dreadful news authenticated. The home letters brought several clippings to Fatehgarh folks. On my way to Fatehgarh I read the first part of the British Weekly of Sept. 20. Had I looked through it I would have been able to authenticate the news at once, a thing which I discovered on my return journey.

We could hardly allow ourselves to believe such a thing. One feels like not accepting it, and by disbelieving it, thus to revoke it. But whatever God's will is, in such a tragedy, it is not given to us to undo deeds either good or bad. Suffice it to say that we were all shocked and stopped as it were in a suspended hesitation, as if time should be turned back. But we know that only his body was destroyed and no harm done to his pure and energetic soul. We comfort ourselves with the thought that God's grace and Christ's fellowship have been very near and quite abundant for you all and for his widow. Sorrow has only one balm, the Lord Jesus Christ.

It was never my good fortune to meet your son. N.K. Mukerji mentioned over and over that he had met him in Mt. Hermon.

Had a good meeting with lots of problems.

Yours very sincerely,
W. L. Allison

C. H. Allen

THE PERSIA MISSION
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
.....
Hamadan, Persia

M

OCT 31 1934

C. H. ALLEN,
Mission Secretary

October 2, 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer,

I was shocked and horrified a few minutes ago to open letters from Robert and from relatives near Buffalo to find in each newspaper clippings reporting the terrible death that overtook your son Elliott at Mt. Hermon. How such a thing as that could happen seems altogether incomprehensible, and why a kind Heavenly Father should allow it to happen is one of the things we shall have to wait to have explained.

That you and Mrs. Speer have the sympathy and prayers of every one of us in the Persia Mission goes without saying. I am trying in some small way to give expression to this feeling in a cablegram which I am sending this afternoon as follows: "Inculcate, New York. Convey the sincere sympathy of this Mission to Mr. and Mrs. Speer. Sympathize with you deeply; see II Thess. 2:16-17".

I only wish that I might add some word that would show how deeply I feel for you. The experience through which I went seven years ago, when it seemed as if the bottom just dropped out of things, has enabled me to enter more fully into other people's sorrows. Gladly would I share with you the sympathy born of those days.

Please convey to Mrs. Speer also from both Mrs. Allen and myself our sincerest sympathy.

Most cordially yours,

C. H. Allen.

EDWARD ADAMS
TAIKU-CHOSEN-ASIA

1170

October 24, 1934

My dear Dr. Speer -

As Sue has already written, our hearts are aching for you these days in the great loss that God has called on you and Mrs. Speer to bear. All the publicity attached has certainly not made the burden any easier.

Having spent three years of my life at Mt. Hermon all that concerns Mt. Hermon ^{comes} almost as close to me as the years of father's + my connection with you bring all that concerns your family close to my heart.

That "all things work together for good" requires a deeper faith + trust at such times as this, which faith we know that you + Mrs. Speer are not lacking. Nevertheless we are remembering you before the Throne of the loving Father.

Affectionately,
Ed Adams

56

Radlyn Court,
Harrogate,
England.

Nov. 22, 1934.

Dear Mr. Spear,

I was a shock to read
of your son, Elliott's tragic death.
I had every intention of writing
you long before this to say
how very sorry I was.

I wonder whether the
mystery of his death has
been solved. I have not
seen any further reference

to the matter in the English papers

Please accept my very deepest sympathy. I feel I have a triple connection. Your name has, of course, been as familiar to me as long as my own. I graduated from Northfield Seminary, and I knew Margaret Spicer in China.

I know this untimely death must have been a very great shock to you and a tremendous loss to the Northfield schools.

In great sympathy,

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Lige Amos
(Mrs C. R. Amos)

Harold C. Anderson
Ponte Nova, Bahia Brazil
Nov. 1, 1934.

57

My dear Dr. Speer:

Mrs Anderson and I were shocked to learn of the tragic death of your son. Our hearts go out in sympathy to you and to all members of your family in your great sorrow.

Our prayer is that the Father of Mercies and God of all Comfort may draw very near to you at this time

Sincerely yours.

Harold C. Anderson.

OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

O. R. AVISON, M. D., LL. D.

SEVERANCE UNION MEDICAL COLLEGE
SEOUL, KOREA

CO-OPERATING MISSIONS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S.
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH
UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

Dr. K. E. Speer

156 Fifth Ave.

New York City

Dear Dr. And Mrs. Speer

We have been greatly shocked by the reports of the death of your son Eliot under such tragic circumstances and today I read the Board's letter to the Missionaries in all its fields.

While I am sure you have been receiving an almost uncountable number of consolatory letters ^{we} Mrs. Avison and I, ~~we~~ must now, even though somewhat late, add one more to the list. Not that we can add even one helpful thought or one real word of consolation for all these have been already said or written, but simply because we feel with you and Mrs. Speer and all your family and friends the personal loss to you and the social loss to the schools and the community that would necessarily follow his death under any circumstances and the added anguish that you must experience from the tragic and seemingly unnecessary accompaniments of his going.

No doubt there was behind it a mind unsettled by the hardness of life and indiscriminating as to who should be its victim - any one in comfortable circumstances and occupying a high position might have been selected by such a crazed mind for none of us can think of any sane mind as conceiving a real reason for attacking such a man.

We join our prayers with those of ^{the} great multitude of your friends all over the world who have been and daily praying God to comfort you.

Yours very sincerely

O. R. Avison

Sisetta H Ahrens
Kro
5 Empress Road,
Lahore, Punjab, India.

Nov. 15, 1934.

Dear Doctor Speers: -
DEC 13 1934

Ans. We wish to send our deep sympathy at this time of sorrow. We are praying for you all that God, in Jesus Christ, may become nearer and dearer.

That word which Jesus spoke to the disciples, whom he loved, "What I do thou knowest not now but thou shalt know hereafter," became a comfort to me when my Henry Calvin went to be with Him.

Others have written and published what we too have felt but just a personal letter, to say we too sympathize and are deeply moved, we want to send to you.

May I just add a few lines about my dear friends Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bowman.

I was not at Annual Meeting and that is why I write.

I have known them very intimately and they have proven to me by their deeds and sweet lives, that they have but one purpose in being in India.

That is to make the Lord Jesus Christ known as the Saviour of the world, and the only Saviour.

This they have done by their loving, prayerful, and hard-working lives.

They have impressed me as truly devoted to their Lord and Master Jesus.

I write this because I had no opportunity to vote on their return. I believe

they should return to India
because I believe they have
proved by their lives and
gospel ministry to be ~~true~~
useful missionaries in India

With kindest regards
from my husband and me.

Very sincerely,
Lissetta H. Ahrens.



DEUTSCHE OST-AFRIKA-LINIE
HAMBURG

S. Nssutkuma, 576
At Sea, Nov. 24, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

I had hoped that I might be able to see you for a few minutes before I sailed but every moment was crowded. I want to express my very real sympathy with you in the great sorrow which came to you and Mrs. Speer and your son's wife. I have been joining with so many others in the petitions which have been going up for all of you, and I am sure that you have more been realizing the power of God's sustaining love.

For the ninth time I am going out to Africa and am very thankful

for the privilege of going.

With warmest personal regards, I

remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Albert J. Adams,

hq

Dear Dr. ^{and} Mrs. Spier:

The news of your sad bereavement has touched us all deeply over here. I wish to assure you of my heartfelt sympathy, knowing that "the God of all comfort" will be your stay in this time of distress and grief.

Sincerely yours,

El Noina, Tripoli, Syria, Oct. 22nd.

Alice S. Barber.

Note stamp special issue for Red Cross.

7/15

REV. HENRY MUNRO BRUEN
TAIKU, KOREA

10/12/34

My dear Dr. Spur,

We were terribly shocked to receive a clipping telling of the tragedy you have been experiencing in the death of your son Elliot.

The clipping indicated that it was probably the work of some insane man altho' no definite clue was yet revealed - at the close of so many fruitful years when the lives and service and the younger generation are such a joy and comfort to us to have such a life of promise so ruthlessly cut off is indeed a tragedy - Please extend my sincerest

Sympathy to your wife and daughter-in-law. It will also be a terrible shock to Margaret out here. As Paul was comforted in his imprisonment by the thought that others might be helped by his example of patient faith I trust you may receive this comfort in the midst of this severe trial.

As you may have heard I again have a home. After four years alone I was married to Miss Hedberg, head of the nursing staff in our Faikku hospital, on Sept 4th. My elder daughter Nan, was married on July 3rd to Rev. H. G. Klerkoper of Princeton Seminary. They have both applied to our board to be sent to Korea and I hope the way will open for them. Harriette, the second daughter, is enjoying her work as teacher in the Foreign School

in Pyongyang. We enjoyed having
Dr. Downs with us at our Jubilee
Celebration. We are having a replica of
the same here under the auspices of
the Presbytery, in a few days. On Oct. 26.
it will be 35 years since I first entered
Taikou. There was then no church and
but one man who had been baptized here.
Now there are 2 nation Presbyteries and
nearly 500 churches. Over half of the
pastors in our Presbytery, I have had a hand
in rearing. This I consider my greatest
joy. A man was calling here this morn.
who rides his bike in 10 miles and out
again 10 miles every Sat. PM. to study
his St. Lesson at the Teachers class, to pre-
pare to teach in one of his Country Churches.
God is still holding the door open for us
and we are trying to work while it is day.
Yours in the Blessed Service.
Henry M. Brown

H. M. Owen

Tai'ku.

CHOSEN
JAPAN

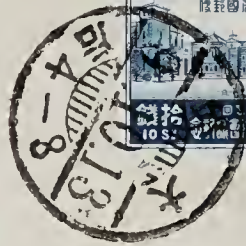
HALF A CENTURY OF EVANGELIZATION

IN
KOREA

1884



1934



Rev. Robert E. Spar D.D.,
Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City,
N.Y.

N.S.A.

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TEHERAN
TEHERAN, PERSIA

031

October 9, 1934.

Dear Mr. Speer,

We learned last night of the very great sorrow which has come to you and your family. Our hearts go out to you in tenderest sympathy, our love and our prayers are with you all. So many of us know personally the strength and sweetness of the comforts you have given us. May that same comfort be yours now in rich measure; the nearness of Christ very real as you know so intimately the fellowship of His suffering.

It must all work harder

for the coming of His kingdom when
evil shall not triumph over good.

God bless you all!

With love from Arthur and me,

Your sincere friend

Lucius J. Boyce

Charlotte A Brown

OT9

Nabatuneh, Syria.

Sept. 1, 1934.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer,

Our hearts have been heavy from the knowledge of your terrible loss and you have my sincere and deepest sympathy, you and the other members of your family, in this dreadful affliction.

No doubt you will receive hundreds and even thousands of letters and telegrams expressing the love and sympathy of your multitudes of friends, but I wanted to add my word too. It has seemed to me that the loving sympathy of friends where we are in trouble, is one of the means by which our Heavenly Father comforts us.

At our station meeting in
Sidon the other day in Dr. Foul's
old home, we spoke of your
loss for all had been so shock-
ed by the mysterious murder
of your honored and loved son.
I hardly know what to say, I
feel so deeply with you all.

Yours very cordially
Charlotte H. Brown.

Gods,

TELEPHONE,
EGHAM 271.

24. 9. 1934.

PENTLANDS,

ENGLEFIELD GREEN,

SURREY.

Dear Aunt Emma.

We are thinking of you
much these days - & asking
for you the comfort which only
He can give - & does - to those
who find in His will their
peace which passeth understand-
ing.

with my love

Margaret S. Swan Better.

Union Bible Training School for Women,
Peking, China
September 30, 1934

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Spear,

Among the warmth of affection that has shed beams of healing on your aunt parent hearts there has been mine. I have prayed that in it all there might be for you such a glory as you together brought to me in my brother's house in Englewood on that Sunday morning of February 9th, 1930, when my mother's fuller life began. You gave us the verse that had been given you years and years before when a tiny child had you on, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth." May all of life again be new with newness that is increasing light.

Faithfully yours,
Margaret E. Barnes

Dear Aunt

Please please and return to me when I

Epworth Hospital
Liberal, Kansas, Sep. 20, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Ave
New York City

Put back

RRA

Dear Dr. Speer:

Thru a news clipping received today from my brother Roger in Paton, N.M., Mrs. Brown and I learned of the fearful tragedy that has come to your son Elliott, in his home at Northfield.

In the misfortune that has come to us, - if it should be called that, - we have been so richly blessed of God in the fellowship of unexpected added days, and of answered prayers from a multitude of loyal friends, and of comforting thoughts from them, - and of new meanings shining out of God's word, - that our hearts do go out in a way we could never before have known, - to the family of your son, to you his parents, and to the many, many students who have been privileged to attend Mt Hermon and receive the inspiration of his life.

Even from the very works of Satan himself, - if perpetrated among God's own children, - God can bring great good. How we do pray that such may be true with the bereaved wife and three little ones, - but at Oh how great a cost! May God's riches, - the fullness of them, - the length and breadth, the height and the depths of His riches of grace, and love, and sympathy, be their momentary support. How we would love to meet and bear our hearts sympathy in person to your daughter-in-law. I wonder if she is of the same Welles family as the one who married Josephine Sailer?

Permit me to pass on a little message that came to

us yesterday, and brot much help to us.

"God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain,
But God hath promised strength for the day
Rest for the labor, light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above
Unfailing sympathy, undying love."

Mrs. Brown, - who has had one of her good days today, joins me in sending our heart felt sympathy, and our prayers will surely be with and for Mrs. Speer and the three little ones.

Cordially yours
Chauncey F. Brown.

In a specially solemn year of the Jewish people here of the Jewish people of Jews. It is this one deep by to think of what he and others have done during the last hundred years in India. A hundred years ago today, what was Dr. Lowrie doing and thinking? What is the result of it after a hundred years? My mind pictures an ocean in which a people has been dropped carrying an ever widening circle of waves extending out and out to the very horizon of infinity.

Ludhiana, Punjab, India.
October 28, 1934

My

Our hearts and minds have travelled to you many times during the last few weeks since we have heard of the tragic loss of your son. It seems a loss to us - but perhaps we should not call it that for out of his going may grow some good which we in our finite thinking cannot conceive of. But we wish to express to you our deep love and sympathy at this time. We are but a small part of that large Presbyterian family all over the world who will be sending to you in one way or another an expression of that common affection which binds us all together in times of sorrow as well as joy.

I remember first hearing of Elliott Speer from my cousin Jewskiller when he was at Princeton. He found him a stimulating friend. They were friends brought together in one of their religious organizations. I was led then to respect and admire him and have continued to do so. The last tributes to him I heard of in America were from the Dodds boys last summer. Surely your son's life and influence will go on in a peculiar way in this earth in the lives of the young boys who came under his influence.

When I am awed by the mystery of things I am often reminded of those lines of Tennyson about "faiths beyond the forms of faith". This is what gives us courage to go on, this I know you have. You need no sermon on this but I would express once more our sympathy.

May God bless you and us, in this sorrow that has come to you.

Yours very sincerely,
Miriam McLean Bensusan.

This Sabbath after noon I have been reading Dr. John Lowrie's Two Years in Upper India. It makes me realize all the courage and imagination and heroism that went through the lives of the Jewish people here of the Jewish people of Jews.

many friends and hope that our lives and service will justify our
pretence here. I also want to add that I think we as a mission have really
made progress in the difficult matter of transferring responsibility to the Church.
Yours very sincerely
Martin Penick

Dear Dr. Speer,
I want to join Miriam in an expression of deep sympathy with you and your family in this time of sorrow. A profound well-considered faith is a great help in bearing pain which is none the less real. In this case as in so many others the tragedy remains however certain we may be of the presence of the hand of God in the affairs of men.

The more one sees of the complexity and magnitude of the physical universe the more humble and reverent he becomes. Yet the phenomena of the physical world are relatively simple and easily grasped as compared with the other and far more significant aspect of the home in which we live as children. There would be little room for reverence, awe and inspiration in a world which we could understand.

I want also to thank you for the book you so kindly sent me. It came just before we left Lahore to come to Ludhiana. I shall certainly read it carefully as soon as possible. We are thankful to be back in the Panjab among

11 Oct. 1934. Queens Gate Hotel
S. Kensington

Ad.
at 2/4.

Dear Aunt Emma

I tried to write to you when the news first came & tore it up. It is no easier now - but you might wonder at my silence. The whole thing seems so terribly meaningless and almost against what would appear to be God's purpose for the world, quite apart from what it has meant to Holly, and you both. And of you who have been a strength to so many in their hours of darkness it would have seemed that enough had already been asked.

From the first meeting in the dingy passageway of the Sywood Hall when Foster Herben suggested we go to the Drumsheugh Baths, and I instantly seized with an unexplained something in Elliott's vital & vivid reaction to everything through the days when our paths have been linked only at intervals & often indirectly - the epidemic at Palmerston Place, a visit to Eglewood High School from the house at Woburn & Brighton, the way, our engagement under your amused but affectionate care, the best man at our wedding, Marnie at Yenching, the letters from my father saying what unexpected depths of meaning had come to him from a visit of the Speers, Cossar's engagement, my last sight of Elliott & Holly at Grand Central Terminal some months back - through it all I have felt a

receiving envious admiration for one who had the
courage of his convictions.

Dear Aunt Emma, all I feel there is to say
is how thankful you must be to be his mother.

I am not going to send my letter to Holly -
I'm afraid she would feel she had to acknowledge
it and nothing I could say in a letter could
add to the sympathy she must already be conscious
of, that will inevitably have drawn you all still
closer together. Tell her, won't you, that I'll
wait till I can see her. And I will ask you
not to answer this note - as a favour - even
to one who owes you his wife -

Cosa looked in with Bob last night - no one
would have guessed she was only 24 hours out
of nursing home after Simon's operation. She was
just her own natural poised self, with flashes
of humour. There is about her these days a
feeling of satisfaction & secure balance that
suggests a deep happiness.

I shall see you perhaps in January
if I come to New York.

Ever lovingly

George

OCT 31 1934

R. C. Byerly

11

Sidon, October 11, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer,

Each day we ask our loving heavenly Father to comfort you. Our love for you gives us a very real share in your sorrow. Jessie joins me in deepest sympathy to you all, especially to Mrs. Speer and to Patty whom we know. How much more terrible such atrocities are to us when ~~we~~^{they} touch those whom we love! May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, our Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

I want to thank you very especially for your kind letter to me with respect to the work we are doing here. I assure you that it is the hardest task I ever undertook. May our Lord graciously lead us in carrying it out.

I am enclosing for you a copy of a report I prepared on the work of the project board. Sometimes we need to tear a house down in order to repair it and sometimes we pull down but a part of it. Which method to pursue is difficult to know. Who has wisdom for these things?

Very sincerely yours,

Robert Crane Byerly.
R.C. Byerly

R. E. Speer

NOV 5 1934

Wm & Edith Blair

WILLIAM NEWTON BLAIR
PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
PYENGYANG, KOREA

NS

Ans.

Oct. 12th. 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave. N.Y.

Dear Dr. Speer;

We are all greatly shocked and grieved to learn of the death of your son at the hands of an assassin.

We know very little of what happened; the newspaper account received here indicates that the perpetrator of the terrible crime was unknown; but whatever the circumstances, we know that a heart breaking sorrow has come to you and your family and we want you to know that all our hearts go out to you in loving, deepest sympathy.

May the God of all comfort and grace comfort your hearts and help you bear this crushing sorrow.

With our earnest prayers and loving sympathy,

Affectionately yours

William and Edith Blair

RADIOGRAM



Via RCA

WORLD
WIDE
WIRELESS

Via RCA



R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SUBSIDIARY

FORM 112-B, R.-196

TEL. ALGONQUIN 4-7050

RECEIVED AT 25 E. 17TH STREET NEW YORK, AT 1934 NOV 5 PM 3 05 STANDARD TIME

BR39 RF91 XHX

CCDE YAOUNDE 5 5 1635

INCULCATE

R. E. Speer

NEWYORK

WYORH OBIEP OCUYM

NOV 5 1934

19
RECEIVED
NOV 5 1934
FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD
TREASURER'S OFFICE

Translation: Convey the sincere sympathy of this Mission to
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer and children. Mr.
G. C. Beanland.

MAY WE HAVE YOUR REPLY, PLEASE?
TELEPHONE ALGONQUIN 4-7050
(OPEN 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.)

576
W. E. BROWNING

PASEO COLÓN 185
BUENOS AIRES
ARGENTINA

October 17, 1934.

Dr. Robert L. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, USA.-

My dear Mr. Speer:-

A letter from Inman which I have today received has brought us the news of this terrible loss you have had in the death of Elliott. I can not tell you with how great sorrow I have learned of this awful thing! As you know, I had a very great affection for Elliott, although I had met him but few times in his life. But he seemed always to remember me, I always called him by his first name, and he seemed especially near to me, for many reasons. Therefore, the news has been doubly shocking.

I know fully that one can not, under such circumstances, say or write anything that will lessen your grief. But I want you to know that we are both deeply grieved and look on your loss as our own, in a very special sense. Nothing we or others may express can help you and Mrs. Speer to bear up under this burden of grief. But I know that you have other Help and that you will lay the burden on One who will help you bear it. May He have you in His special keeping during these terribly vacant days that lie ahead of you, and give you peace!

Very affectionately,

W. E. Browning
W. E. Browning.-

538
1

Z. Bercovitz, M.D.
Pyongyang Union Christian Hospital
Pyongyang, Chosen (Korea)

889 Lexington Ave.
New York City
October 24th, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Doctor Speer:-

Just a note to accompany the enclosed announcement card which is self explanatory. I want you to know that as we get started here in New York our interest is still firmly with the Board and we look forward to the opportunity of being of service in other ways which will help in the work of the Kingdom.

I want to take this opportunity to express the sincere sympathy of Mrs. Bercovitz and myself for you at this time of great trouble in connection with the death of your dearly beloved son who was doing such a fine piece of work. As we sorrow for you and with you we still thank God for your life and devotion and the testimony for HIM under conditions of stress and strain. We know that God will use this experience for HIS glory and to the advancement of HIS kingdom.

We are living in New Rochelle and trying to build up a practice there as well as in New York City. I am doing especially Internal Medicine and diseases of the gastro-intestinal tract in addition to Tropical Medicine.

Faithfully yours


Z. Bercovitz, M.D.

OFFICE HOURS
BY APPOINTMENT

Z. BERCOVITZ, M. D.

889 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK

PHONE RHINELANDER 4-2428

afternoons

30 EASTCHESTER ROAD
NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y.

PHONE HAMILTON 5257

Mornings & Evenings

DR. Z. BERCOVITZ WISHES TO ANNOUNCE
THAT AFTER FOUR YEARS AT THE PYENGYANG
UNION CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL, KOREA, (JAPAN)
AND STUDY AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF
TROPICAL MEDICINE, HE WILL RESUME
PRACTICE AT
889 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK

BY APPOINTMENT

RHINELANDER 4-2428

John W. Bowman

THE NORTH INDIA UNITED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
SAHARANPUR, U. P., INDIA.



4-11-1934.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL.

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

Mrs. Bowman and I wish to join the great company of your friends who are extending to you in these days their loving sympathy. We had never met Elliot personally. But we have often heard of the splendid work that he was doing at Mt. Hermon, and since the Dodds sent their own boys there, we had been thinking of the possibility of ours going there to be under his care.

Lady Ewing read me the other day in Lahore a part of a letter from one of the Lucas boys, in which he spoke of Elliot as "the finest man I have ever known". I have no doubt he was fully worthy of that tribute from a young man whose life he in some measure was helping to mould. It must be a source of joy to you to know of this esteem in which he was held by a younger generation.

Doubtless he had fulfilled the commission that had been given him. Though it seems hard to us that the time granted him was so short. The time given any of us, however, is short enough, and I know you will agree that the main requisite is that one be true and brave while that short time lasts. I am sure Elliot was both of these. We rejoice with you in that.

Please be assured of our affection and loving interest in the greatest of all bonds- "the bonds of Christ".

Affectionately yours,

John & Lavinia Bowman

R. E. Speer

RECEIVED
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1120

NOV 30 1934

Nov. 7, 1934

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer,

The news of your great bereavement brought keen sorrow to us. Tho' tardy in being sent, my sincere sympathy is with you and I join the many who are praying that abiding peace and sustaining comfort be

given you.

I know from experience
that thru your loss you
will be led into deep and
even deeper channels of
richness of life and
fellowship of understanding.

Very Cordially Yours,

Lillie A. Teaber.

R. E. [unclear]

134

DR. MARY E. BRADFORD

THORNTON HOME
NEWBURGH, INDIANA

Nov 25 1934.

Dr. Robt. E. Speer
156 - 4th Ave New York

Dear Dr. Speer:-

Ever since your great loss in the death of your son it has been in my mind to send to you and Mrs. Speer a word of sympathy. I never saw Elliot but Mrs. Wilson has often spoken of him and a letter from Dr. Mary Smith of Detroit this week said "In spite of their sorrow Dr. S. still has a smile for his old friends". Although it is Sunday I am

ter. She has been very restless
spending her time wandering about
the halls or visiting the rooms of
others. Lately her appetite has failed and
she is getting too weak to do much
walking. so she spends more time
in bed. She has delusions which
make her afraid to be left alone.
The nurses or other guests are very
kind to try to sit with her but one
cannot be sure just what she will
try to do. Only last week the nurse
left to carry her tray to the kitchen and
returned in a moment to find her
on the floor and she had hit the table
in falling. When there are any
news of Peria she brightens up and seems
to comprehend for a moment but soon
has forgotten all about it.

She sometimes joins in a dear old
Bible verse but even that is seldom
now. The constant prayer of those of us
who knew her years ago is that she might
go to her Heavenly Home. I am so
glad she has such a good place
to be taken care of and we are all
thankful for this dear place
May God bless and comfort you both
Very sincerely Mary C. Bradford

at home and almost in isolation
to keep from giving grip to
others, It was praise meeting ser-
vice for our Missionary Society and
from reports the faithful ones
were there and I hope the
report of the offering will be a
good one.

I have especially had it in mind
to write you of our dear Mrs. Tom-
Hook. Without seeing her one
can scarcely comprehend how
she has failed in mind and
body. I suppose it is more than
two years since she has read any
thing or tried to write a let-

JAN 25 1935

December 19-1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:

The following minute was unanimously adopted
by Mission:

A few months have passed since the sad news of the death of Dr. Speer's son first came to us. The hearts of all in the Mission have gone out to him and to his family in their hours of great sorrow. Assembled here in Annual Meeting we of the West Africa Mission would pause to pay tribute to that son whom we knew through his father and through others as a loyal and devoted colleague in the service of our Lord.

Our nation has lost a most promising citizen who was "spending and being spent", a constantly growing influence in the lives of many young men and women of our country, portraying for them in his person a glorious picture of a radiant, Christ-filled life. Our Church visible has lost a stalwart leader of its youth, whose maturing powers were being signally blessed by the Spirit of God for the onward march of Christ's cause here on earth. Our Senior Secretary and his family have suffered a loss which, doubtless, they can not now measure, and may never be able to measure.

Here we would be saying very very little, for this is for them holy ground. Yet would we wish that we be permitted to pay here this measure of our tribute, to this young prince among God's noble men.

Not only so, but we would pause now as well to pay our tribute to the noble father of this noble son. His life has been to us as to many many others a constant inspiration and an unending joy. We thank God for this manifestation of his magnificent courage and unfaltering faith in translating so great a personal sorrow into a nobler enrichment of life, not only for himself, but for others as well; and thanking God we pray that His grace may ever continue to be in the future as it has been in the past sufficient for this faithful, fruitful servant of Christ's and the Church.

Dr. Speer - page #2

This is but a small expression of our deep sympathy, and we assure you the prayers of the Mission have been constantly offered on your behalf and that of your family.

Very sincerely yours,

G. C. Beaubien

The following minutes were adopted by the Central and South Brazil Missions at their annual meetings:

Central Brazil - Annual Meeting December 12-22, 1934:

" The Mission has heard with emotion and deep sorrow the news of the death of Mr. Elliott Speer. It desires to associate itself with the Board's beautiful minute and extends to Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer and their family and to Mrs. Elliott Speer its profound sympathy with them in their loss. "

South Brazil - Annual Meeting December 27, 1934 - January 7, 1935:

"The Mission would express to our friends, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Speer and family, and to Mrs. Elliott Speer and family, our sincere sympathy with them in the bitter hour through which they passed in the mysterious death of Dr. Elliott Speer. But we trust that the removal of a man whose life was so powerfully influencing young men and women is a promotion to wider usefulness in the fuller life beyond. We pray that these our friends who came with their loving words of sympathy to all of us who also have gone through deep waters, may receive in their hour of trial blessed consolation from our Father, the 'God of all consolation.' May their hearts be strengthened to continue their ministry of love. "

John V. Marrows

MT

A.P. Mission, Kasur,
Punjab, India
Nov. 8, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer:

It was a blow to hear of the assassination of your son, Elliott, and our hearts have gone out to the Father of all Comforts on your behalf, Who knows what it is to have His Beloved Son slain without cause, and through it purposed the redemption of those who did it. His peace is yours, May His Spirit bring that burdened soul to Christ, that he may ask forgiveness, and also receive peace.

"Said I not unto thee, if thou wouldst believe, thou shouldst see the glory of God?"

Mrs. Barrows joins me in this prayer and in the deepest sympathy in this hour of trial for you and your family. There are no tragedies in God's family. We all enter His presence in answer to Christ's prayer; "Father, I will that they also whom Thou hast given me, be with me where I am, that they may behold My glory". We thank God for you.

Very affectionately yours,

Joseph Vaile Barrows.

7. Dorcen Barrows.

Trang, Siam,
November 15, 1934



Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.

156 5th Avenue

New York City,

My dear Dr. Speer,

You have held so important a place in my affection and esteem for nearly forty years, in my thoughts and influencing my actions more than any other one man, that I cannot help this intrusion. The news has just reached me of your tragic loss I have not the words to express the grief it caused me or the sympathy I should like to express. Your closeness to Christ has I know enabled you to trust and to bear as I wish all of us could do when our time of sorrow comes.

Very sincerely,

L. C. Bulkeley

مریض خانہ آمریکائی تہران
EDWARD BLAIR, M. D.
AMERICAN HOSPITAL
TEHERAN, PERSIA

93

Oct. 8, 1934.

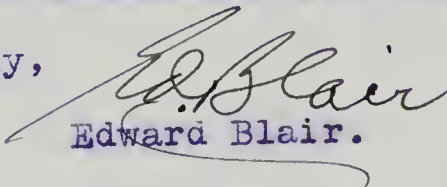
Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer:

We have just heard the sad news of the tragedy in your family. There is little we can say or do which might help ease the heartache of Mrs. Speer and yourself, but we want to remind you that we are part of the sympathetic host who feel somewhat of the shock of your bereavement, and who wish there were something we could do about it.

We wish you the strength and fortitude which have been ~~#####~~ enhanced
~~###~~ by a life of service to man and communion with God.

Yours truly,


Edward Blair.

116

April 22.

IMADEGAWA, TERAMACHI NISHI.

KYOTO, JAPAN

TEL. KAMI 3742

(Mrs. Samuel C.) Bartlett

My dear Mrs. Speer.
Easter has come again, and at long last I am venturing to write you a word of the sympathy that has been building up in our hearts all these months since the incredible blow came to you & Mr. Speer - as well as the household in Mount Vernon.
The greatest comfort

them now - but can we believe any change could crush them - or check their glad activity?

Gordon wrote "The seven men who died laughing - and I laughed with them - and you would have laughed too if you'd been here - to think that nothing the Boche could do could

course from the
thought of all the
lives that were
blessed by even
chance contacts
with the joyous,
loving, courage
our souls seemed
to breathe on Andover
Hill.

The whole world
changed for them
and us - when
war broke out.

But they met it
with souls stayed
upon God - hearts
full of practical
sympathy for friend
& foe.

We cannot see

touch our souls." And so we
can trust them out of our
sight until we have done
all we can to take their
places in this world they
left so soon. What a comfort
the little grandchildren
must be to you and to their
mother!

Mr Bartlett joins me in
greetings to you & Dr Sizer.
Very sincerely
Frank Gordon Bartlett

117

1888 North Fourth Street
Columbus, Ohio
November 14, 1934.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Friends:

Since we heard of the tragedy of your son's death two months ago today we have not been unmindful of your sorrow; and in our morning devotions we have remembered you by name asking the good Lord to sustain as the days go by.

We immediately expressed our feelings by voting with the members of Columbus Presbytery resolutions of sympathy; but we still wish to make our expression more personal. And while we have long delayed in this, we wish you to know that we have not allowed ourselves to forget the sadness of your hearts during these weeks of strain and stress.

We were always assured of your prayers and sympathy for us and our fellow-missionaries in difficult times on the foreign field and we kept on under the sustaining power of your prayers. Now, your unfailing faith in the goodness of God in your own sorrow still inspires us.

Dr. Speer, one of your own sermon texts which you have exemplified to us all in the sad experiences of the past two months is: "Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" The press notices of your continued public service gives us courage to meet the experiences of life without faltering.

And to you, Mrs. Speer, we still look for that spiritual leadership which you have had in the years gone by.

We are, Yours with sincere sympathy.

Wilbur M. Campbell
Inetta P. Campbell

Chiengmai, Siam,
October 7, 1934.

Dear Doctorrd & Mrs. Speer:

The sad news of the death of your son Elliott had just arrived by airmail today.

We can still picture him as he was when fifteen or sixteen years of age, - his fine manly appearance and his alert, kindly and courteous manner. We have been noting the accounts of his splendid work at Mt. Hermon and naturally looked forward to a long life of great usefulness for him.

With love and deepest sympathy,
Howardrd & Mary Campbell.

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:LOVING SYMPATHY TRAGIC SORROW=

ELISA CORTES.

ack,

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Gordon K. Chapman

THE JAPAN MISSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

(ESTABLISHED IN 1859)

JK

GORDON K. CHAPMAN

52 NAKAO-CHO, FUKIAI-KU, KOBE

ジ. ケ. チャップマン

神戸市東灘区中尾町五十二

CENTRAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

3 KUMOCHI-CHO, ITCHOME, KOBE

中央神學校

神戸市東灘区篠田町一丁目三

NOV 19 1934

October 27, 1934.

Doctor R.E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor Speer:-

Our hearts have gone out to you and your family, repeatedly, as we have thought of the tragic death of your dear son, Elliot. The local papers brought the news to us and we have been committing you all to our loving Heavenly Father, whom we know has been your stay through this trial. The news was reported at the Annual Meeting of the Synod and the brethren engaged in special prayer at that time. Members of the Chuo Seminary family have made sympathetic inquiries and have been remembering you before the Throne of Grace. While we never had the privilege of knowing your eldest son, we have occasionally heard of the fine work that he was doing. The only thing which can possibly reconcile us to losses like this is the well confirmed conviction that God's work and purpose is not confined to what we know in this world, but has other spheres as well. Kindly convey to Mrs. Speer and William and to the family of your son our heartfelt sympathy and assure them of our continued remembrance in this time of affliction.

During a part of the summer I had the privilege of visiting Chosen, Manchukuo and China with the Pastor of our home church, Dr. Downs, and had an opportunity to see something of the mission work which is being done there. While in Peiping, we visited the Yenching University and had a brief visit with Miss Margaret Speer in her lovely home. She seemed to be very well and busy as Dean of Girls.

It is becoming increasingly apparent here that nationalism is the great enemy which the Japanese Christian Church will have to face in the near future. In rather recent times, at least, two rather prominent Christians have been arrested and charged with having shown disrespect to the shrines which of course means lese-majesty. It would appear that certain authorities are looking with great resentment upon the teaching of the unity of God, which they regard as inimical to the shrine system. One of our friends, thus arrested, appealed to the highest court on the ground that the government had permitted the Bible to be circulated freely and that this taught the unity of God. The appeal was never heard from, and he has been imprisoned. The other day the police called on his family and stated that should any publicity be given to the case, his license to practice dentistry would be revoked. This sort of thing is being increasingly manifested in Japan, and I am

wondering just what we should do about it. Should wide publicity be given to such cases in the hope of getting opposition aroused in other countries, or should we refrain? In any case much suffering is involved for those directly concerned. While in Korea the authorities gave assurance that they would not press the issue of attendance at the shrines, but I am certain that they are going to press it here when there is any aggressive presentation of Christian truth, such as would appear antagonistic to the system which is now being used more than ever to bolster the state system. It is indeed unfortunate that the shrine has been chosen as the symbol of the imperial system throughout the Empire.

It so happens that we are on the furlough list for 1935-6, having returned to the field in 1927. Thus there is the prospect of our being able to visit America next year; in which case we trust that we shall be privileged to see you. I feel very much the need of an opportunity to do a little special work along the lines of my specialty in the Seminary, which happens to be Biblical History and Archaeology and Old Testament Exegesis. There is so little suitable literature in these fields in Japanese, that I am hoping to devote considerable time during furlough to getting some materials in order for publication. Our Japanese church has a genuine interest in theological matters and there is considerable being written in this field, but practically nothing in the Biblical field.

Mrs. Chapman joins me in this letter with loving regards to both yourself and Mrs. Speer,

Cordially yours

Gordon L. Chapman

Brenton J. Badley

THE BOMBAY AREA
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BISHOP BRENTON THOBURN BADLEY, BOMBAY, INDIA

7/11

November 5th 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer:-

With the deepest sorrow we have learned of the sad death of your son Elliott. I send our word of sympathy, though it must, I fear, reach you very late. Being on tour, I have not been able to attend to this as I should have liked to do. The sympathy of the entire Church will be yours as you pass through this time of grief. It may comfort you to know that in far distant places of the world you are being remembered in this hour of bereavement. Through the years your name and your family have been associated with the cause of Christ, and the hosts of those who have known you personally are supplemented by the great number who have followed your wonderfully fruitful labors for the Master as they have been ^{known} made ^{known} to the Church through the printed page or the word of others. That your son was at his post of duty, likewise giving his life to the Lord, will be a comfort and solace to you. We lost our elder son when he was only 24, on the eve of his sailing for India to take up missionary work out here, and we can enter into your experience at a time like this. We shall not forget the sense of exaltation when God drew so near to us through the door of our suffering. We know He will sustain you, and add a gracious touch to your life that will still further enrich you, and give you added understanding of the deep things of His realm.

Yours most sincerely,

Brenton J. Badley.

hm

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DE
ASOCIACIONES CRISTIANAS DE JOVENES

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Oct. 29, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York.

Dear Dr. Speer:

With deep sorrow we have just learned from the columns of the Christian Century of the terrible tragedy that befell your son, and we hasten to express to you our sympathy and our prayers that in this bitter experience, you and Mrs. Speer may be wonderfully sustained by the Lord and Savior whom you have both done so much to make known and loved throughout the world.

Sincerely yours,

P. A. Conard

P. A. Conard

G. Baez Camargo

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MEXICO, D. F.

1934

PROF. G. BAEZ CAMARGO
SECRETARIO GENERAL

November 19, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Speer:

It was with great concern that I have heard of the passing away, in such a tragic way, of your beloved son Rev. Elliott Speer.

I had not the privilege of meeting Rev. Speer, but I count among my best experiences that of making your acquaintance last year during the annual meeting of the Committee on Cooperation, and I wish to join with your friends and co-workers in expressing you my deep sympathy in this sudden sorrow that has befallen upon your household and also in asking our Lord and Saviour to bring all comfort and peace to you and the rest of Rev. Elliott Speer's family.

Most cordially yours,

G. Baez Camargo

Mrs Waller J. Clark

R. E. Spear

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INDIA CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR

Nov. 1 '34.

Dear Dr Spear.

Ever since the news of your great sorrow came to us, we have been seeking to share it with you by much prayer for you and Mrs Spear and the wife and the other relatives of your dear son. Our hearts have gone out to you in loving sympathy and we have wished that we might in some way help to bring comfort to you. But we know that you are leaning on the "God of all comfort" and finding in His close presence and love the truest peace and comfort it is possible for us to have. We do pray for His sustaining and upholding grace for you from day to day. And you have a comfort that none can take from you in the memory of the dear one, whose life was so consecrated and Christlike and even whose mysterious death may yet be used for the glory of His Lord.

We have had our trials this summer
in my husband's long serious illness. He
went to the Hospital on June 15th. with an
acute bladder trouble, with much pain and
fever and a slight operation at first, then a
long wait for the big operation, the removal of
the prostate gland, which was done the end of
July. It was successful, but his recovery has been
very slow, with many complications. He came home
Sept. 10th. after twelve weeks in Hospital. and two
weeks later we thought he was surely going,
with congestion of the lungs and a heart collapse.
But again prayer was heard for him and he
was spared to us. All this this long illness. we have
all been so upheld by the prayers of our many
friends both here and in the Punjab Mission and
we are so grateful to them and to our loving Father, who
has graciously answered. We are also very thankful
for our two skillful English Drs at the Hospital.
We sent for Lida when he was worst and she came
and spent two weeks with us, in which she was
invaluable in cheering her father up. and helping
dseraldine and me, for it has been a hard experi-
ence for us, especially as I had Walter's Office
work to do, for the Choir. Mut. Co. and the Nat.
C. E. Soc. and we had to move in Aug. to another
house. Now at last Walter is nearly well, can sit
up five or six hours a day on the verandah or in
the drawing room. and can walk about some in
the house. He seems like his old self too. in his
cheery, good humor. and interest in all
good things. And he is slowly getting his
strength back. The Drs say he has made a good

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recovery, considering his age, and
there will be no fear of a return of the
trouble. We now have a small, comfortable
house in a nice little garden and have
become used to our "Indian California", in
spite of its rather changeable climate.
And we do much like the good people
here, esp. the missys. Walter is an
elder in the Scotch Pres. Church, and the
pastor. Rev. Mr. Shost has been kindness
itself to us all. We often wish that we
could see all our Amer. friends again,
but it seems probable that we shall
stay here.
We had hoped to be able to go to the
Punjab this fall and see our friends
and be at the Annual Meeting, but
of course that plan had to be given
up.
We hear that Mr. Russell Graham
of the Can. Pres. Mission was greatly

used in heart-searching talks in Andhiana,
and that many of our Misses had a very
special blessing. You will of course hear soon more
about it. We remember them often in prayer
as we do all of your Secretaries and workers at
home. We have so often thanked the Lord for our
splendid Board and its fine work. May the
Master continue to use and to richly bless you

all.
yours in bonds of an old friendship.

Nettie D. Clark.

J. L. Santiago Cabrera

The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America

PRESBYTERY OF PUERTO RICO

DEPARTAMENTO DE EDUCACION
RELIGIOSA

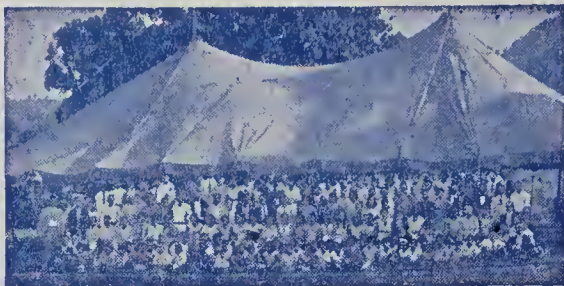
Rvdo. J. L. Santiago-Cabrera

Rvdo. Tomás Aquino Ojeda

Misioneros

Box 111

Mayaguez, Pto. Rico



ACTIVIDADES:

Institutos de Educación Religiosa

Escuelas Bíblicas

Conferencia de Jóvenes

Institutos Normales

Escuelas de Verano

Evangelización Rural

R. E. Spear

Mayaguez, P. R.
January 24, 1935

JL

Dr. Robert E. Spear
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Spear:

Just a few lines to express to you the deep sympathy of both Mrs. Santiago and myself because of the tragic death of your son Elliot.

We had the pleasure of meeting him at the time he became President of the Northfield Schools. May God give you abundant grace in your just sorrow.

I have been enjoying recently one of your fine books, "Studies of Missionary Leadership." It has been an inspiration to me.

When are we going to have the privilege of a visit from you to our Mission field in Puerto Rico? The Christian Boards that work in this Island are planning to have a delegation of Secretaries and representatives to study our problems, about the middle of February.

Very cordially yours,

J. L. Santiago Cabrera

J. L. Santiago Cabrera

COPY

BRIDGE OF ALLAN

AS FROM 139 DESSWOOD PLACE, ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND

June 12, 1935

My dear Speer:

I have wanted to write you for months, ever, indeed, since I read your moving and beautiful book about Elliott. But days and weeks and months have passed, and the letter I wanted to write has never been written, often as you have been in my mind and heart. The truth is that I am continually in arrears with the letters that I want most deeply to write. I am never in bed till one in the morning, or very rarely, and I am usually writing at night. But I never seem to get through! Want of discipline and order are the causes. I fear there is no doubt about that. But I must not dwell even on my own misdoings. I am writing to the most generous of friends. I read the Memorial with admiration and sympathy. I can imagine the price you paid for it. But you have succeeded in giving a very beautiful impression of Elliott which I, and I doubt not many others, greatly wanted to have.

It had always been one of my deep regrets that I had not seen more of him when we were both in London and that I had not known him better. As I said to you once before, to me he was always the gracious and promising lad of many years ago. Your sketch shows how nobly he had fulfilled that early promise. Far better, surely, his short steadily advancing life than long days of prosperous unfulfilment. As I get older life seems only intelligible to me as a fragment of the future. Scientific knowledge gives it as a result of the past. Faith reads it in the light of the thing which is coming. That is surely the keepest kind of knowledge, without which the intelligence hungers unsatisfied. What God was making of Elliott you will yet see, something surpassing even your hopes.

I have often felt that we were far too timid in realizing and in expressing our Christian faith in the life everlasting. That at least has been true in Scotland. Your own impression of that faith in this book will help very many. It is a noble tribute, which has completed my own picture of Elliott and has set it in the great context which its quality demands, and I am deeply grateful for it.

Reunion is coming, and the best is yet to come. We hold to that and press onward to try to finish the work God has given us to do. I wonder if you have seen a lecture given a year or two ago by one of our first scholars and personalities, Edwyn Bevan. It was given to a Jewish Society in London and is on the Essex Hall Foundation. Its subject is on that which Hebrews and Christians have in common, i. e., the faith that history is not best symbolized by a circle but by a line. All the pagan views, ancient and modern, are cyclical. For example, the ages of gold, silver, lead, etc. of classical antiquity, the Kalpas of Hinduism, Spengler and the modern scientific ideas determined by entropy, etc., etc. Zoroastrianism, Bevan says, is the one exception. This is of course due to its ethical monotheism. But Jew and Christian alike believe that something definite is being achieved. History is to them a line (Islam of course is an offshoot of Judaism). He quotes Reikert as saying that the victory of Christianity was largely due to its sense of the worthwhileness of life as compared with the dreariness and boredom of the pagan view. Short as the lecture is it lodged something in my mind. Clearly immortality is implied in the idea. Something is being made that is worth keeping forever and ever.

Bevan has been giving the Gifford Lectures in Edinburgh. I hope he will work out the idea. He is one of the vast Bevan-Buxton-Barclay-Perry-Fry-Woods connection of the old Clapham stock and is himself a High Churchman with an evangelical heart.

Barth is likely to be nominated for an Ahewan lecturer. Should he be appointed and accept he will have to perform some remarkable gymnastics in his opening lecture.

We have in our Assembly at last taken open action in the German situation. I spent yesterday in Edinburgh helping to draft a letter of sympathy with the German Confessional Church. I can't say we made a very good job of it. The letter lacks distinction and point, but in the main, I think, gets out the real issue. Hitherto such missives have been confined to individual and federal protests. Now we think it high time for the individual churches to come in. Our one hope of effecting anything is Hitler's known willingness to conciliate British opinion and the unwillingness of Mueller and his gang to break off ecumenical relations. But the news from Germany is very ominous. Goebbels, who is diabolically clever, is doing his astutest to break up the Confessional Movement. He has, we hear, been trying to use the Christian Scientists, Oxford Group and Baptists by special favors to be his unconscious tools in propaganda on this side.

But I must stop. I am spending a few days with my son in his new charge in this lovely and romantic region. We look out on Sterling Castle and on Monday roamed over Bannockburn working out the details of Bruce's strategy. Modern investigation has greatly cleared up the matter. This afternoon we go to Cambuskenneth Abbey. Would that you and Mrs. Speer were with us!

Will you kindly give my affectionate greetings to her and accept them for yourself.

Yours ever,

D. S. Cairns

Alas for Pearl Buck!

C. Y. Cheng

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN CHINA

NO. 6 KUNG HSIEN HUTUNG, EAST CITY,
PEIPING, CHINA.

會總國全會教督基華中

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "CHURCHINCH PEIPING"

CODE BOOKS: MISSIONS, C. I. M.

GENERAL SECRETARY
THE REV. C. Y. CHENG, D. D., LL. D.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES
THE REV. A. R. KEPLER, D. D.
T. C. FAN, PH. D.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SECY
THE REV. S. H. LEGER, PH. D.

MODERATOR
THE REV. Y. S. TOM, M. A., B. D.

HON. TREASURER
Y. T. LO, M. A.

Sept. 19, 1934

CK

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U.S.A.

My dear Dr. Speer:

Yesterday a local paper in Peiping contained the terrible news of the tragic end of your dear son in America. It has shocked us all when we read it. I hasten to write you this brief note of my deepest sympathy with you in this hour of heavy trial. We earnestly pray that you will realize in a special manner the nearness and dearness of Almighty God which will sustain you in this hour of great personal distress. Life has many problems that are utterly beyond our human understanding, but we can rest assured above everything else there is Almighty God who rules and over-rules all. Therefore out of his religious experience, St. Paul was able to say that all things work together for good to those who love God. I am sure you are finding courage and joy in the good Lord upon whom we trust.

I hardly know how to express my own feeling in regard to this sad news. You certainly have my deepest sympathy and love. Please accept this poor expression from one who loves you and the great service you have rendered for so many years to the Christian Movement in the world. May you be sustained by the grace of God in facing this unusual event and that you have found consolation in the merciful Father in Heaven. My deepest sympathy goes to you and earnest prayers for you and all your dear ones at home. With affectionate regards to Mrs. Speer and yourself,

Yours sincerely,

C. Y. Cheng

CYC:c

618

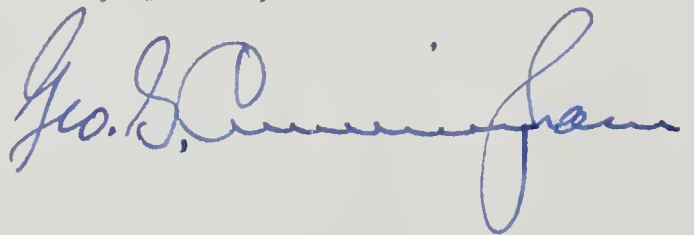
1135 Beall Ave.,
Wooster, Ohio.
Sept. 26, 1934.

Dr. Robt. E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Mrs. Cunningham and I have been thinking a very great deal about you and Mrs. Speer and your family during the days since grief and trouble have come upon you. You have been so flooded with messages of interest, affection and sympathy that we have felt a note from us would not help in any way. However we do wish to send you our deepest sympathy and let you know that you and your dear ones are on our hearts. We did not know your son but have felt interested in him indirectly through the wedding of Tom Wagner and Frances Mitchell. However through this note to you we are trying to visit the fatherless and widow in their affliction and to assure you and your wife of our interest and concern during these heartbreaking days.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Geo. D. Cunningham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "G".



TO · GREAT · YOU · AT
CHRISTMAS · TIME



Way the gift which
came with Christmas

God's wondrous gift of peace -

Bring comfort to your heart today

And bid all sorrow cease 



Dear Mr. & Mrs. Spear: -

711

We are all thinking of you -
Missing that there lo. speech
sadness for you at that time - We
trust you are all well as we
are & so happy in being
together - Mother continues
to carry on - to the amusement
of us all -

Always lovingly
Alice & the Children

31 Summit Ave Redlands

Mr & Mrs Dwight M Donaldson

NY

1934
Washed, Oct. 17, 1934.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

I learned
yesterday evening in Station
meeting of your terrible bereavement.

One of the happiest memories
of my first fulough was a visit
to Princeton to speak to a meeting
of the Philadelphia Society that Elliot
had arranged. He looked after me
while I was there, so that we got
somewhat acquainted personally,
and I have been interested in his
good work since.

If the effect of the news of this sudden hard blow to you and Mrs. Gere is the same in all the Mission stations as it was here in Meshed, the heartfelt sympathy and intercession from all over the world ought to give us ground to hope that you will be marvellously sustained. You have shared in the sorrows of so many of us, so naturally we all feel deeply what happens to you and your family.

Very sincerely yours,

Dwight M. Donaldson.

Bert Donaldson

ack.

Geneva

October 5, '34

My very dear Mrs. Speer:

May I add
a tiny personal note
& tell you how con-
stantly you and your
family have been in
my thoughts since
this tragic news
came. Very tender
loving sympathy goes
to you and those
who loved him.

I am an old North-
field student so I

am sorrowing with
the schools in their
great loss. What a
mystery it all is but
as you yourself have
said "God is love".

Such a beautiful
message has just come
in from Mrs. Lenwood
whose husband lost his
life on the Alps in
September. In it are
these words, "The real
comfort and strength that
comes to us in the face
of death is the sense of
a new grandeur in life."

Eternal life takes on
new significance and
brings fresh assurance
at these times. We
know and rejoice that
your faith will not
fail.

My love and my
prayers

Mary Dugman

Douglas and Rebecca Decherd

Address :
D. H. Decherd
Box 258
American Mission
Aleppo, Syria

SYRIA MISSION
of
The Board of Foreign Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
ALEPPO STATION

BTG
ALEPPO, SYRIA.

Sept. 29, 1934.

Ans.

Dr. & Mrs. Robt. E. Speer,
1567 5th Ave.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Friends - It was with the greatest shock that we read in a recent paper of the tragic death of your son, the Rev. Elliott Speer. Our hearts go out to you and yours in these hours of sorrow. Yet we are sure that the intimate facts of his life are a great comfort to you in these times. We rejoice with you in what his life has meant to those whose lives have been touched by his.

As it is not heart-rending to think that the Lindberghs must live through their great tragedy again. The newspapers are just bringing us word of the clues that have led to the first arrests.

Our three babies are so happy that we should like to cling to each fleeting moment.

Assuring you that you are in our prayerful thoughts at this time, We are

Sincerely yours,
Douglas & Rebecca Decherd.

Jane E Doolittle Shran.

Oct. 9, 1934



R. F. Speer

NS

My dear Mr. and Mrs. Speer:—

The news, which reached us this week, of your great loss has filled us all with sadness, and with sympathy for you. And yet when loved ones are taken home from such as you there is a triumph about it that is glorious. "If ye loved me ye would have re-

joiced because I go unto the
Father." And so, though my
heart goes out to you all in
deepest sympathy yet, too, I
rejoice with you ~~that~~ you
have that perfect faith, and
hope in great abundance.
And I know the Father is
granting you deep Peace, and
comfort day by day. May His
richest blessings be bounti-
fully yours through all these
days. Most sincerely yours -
Jane E. Doolittle.

J. L. Dodds

As from
Lowiston,
Dehra Dun, India.
October 19, 1934

Dear Dr. Spur & Mrs Spur:

The news of the terrible thing, that happened at Mt. Hermon, reached us just about a week ago, and our hearts are filled with sorrow and amazement as well as sympathy; for we can scarcely imagine how anyone could be an enemy of Elliott, who was so uniformly cheerful and kindly in thought and deed. We feel that we are, in a measure active sharers of your loss, for we had come to think so highly of Elliott during our stay in Northfield and he had been so good to us and our boys.

Our hearts have been going out to you and our prayers going up for you, that you may be sustained and comforted in this tragedy which is so unintelligible from our human point of view

With deepest affection and sympathy
J. L. Dodds

Paul Erdman
THE AMERICAN PRESS

Of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

BEIRUT, SYRIA

PAUL ERDMAN, MANAGING EDITOR

613

Sept. 30, 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer,

We were terribly shocked a few days ago to read in the Paris "Herald-Tribune" the awful tragedy of your son's death, and our hearts went out to you in deep sympathy and in prayer that you and yours may find the Lord's presence and sustaining grace very real indeed in these dark days.

Indeed the times are out of joint and the whole world travailling in pain, and the apocalyptic teachings of Christ and the whole New Testament seem more real and more comforting than ever.

Please do not think it necessary to answer this.
Yours in affectionate sympathy
Paul Erdman.

John Elder

Hamden, Perin.

Oct 17, 1934.

NOV 7 1934

Hg

Ans.

Dear Mr. Speer, -

Words are inadequate to express the sense of shock and personal bereavement that has come to us all with the word of the tragic passing of your son. We can only imagine how great the unexpected blow must have been to you and sympathize with you more than we can say. We can but ever thank God that you are so richly provided with the assurance of the Christian faith that alone are adequate to such a time.

One hesitates to write at all at
such a time lest you feel obligated
to answer all such letters & your
load is made just that much heavier.
But I trust you will not feel under
such a necessity but will find one
small grain of comfort in the assurance
that we whole heartedly are
sharing with you these days in
loving sympathy and prayer.
May the living Christ be very very
near you during these days of
unprecedented trials.

Sincerely yours,

John Elder



Wm

A Word of Comfort,

A KINDLY THOUGHT
AND AN EARNEST PRAYER
FOR YOU

II Cor. 1:3-4

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Elmore.



F. Speer

W. P. Ellis

Tabriz, oct. 14, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer,

There is so little one can say that will bring any comfort after ^{such a} tragic experience that has come to you and your loved ones but I hope the realization that your friends all over the world stand ready to do what they can will bring some comfort to you. Therefore I write just this little note so that you will know for sure that we do think of you very much in these days and pray that God will bring you a real measure of assurance of his abundant love and strength to bear all the trying, surging thoughts that must stream through your mind and bring you abiding comfort.

Somehow in these latter years with the changed organization of the Mission I have not felt the urge to write you that I used to feel as it is so much more direct to take up our problems with the mission officers. But after all I feel there is a loss and miss the warm personal letters that you used to write now and then.

I suppose you have never seen the people of these eastern lands go through times of personal tragedy in the loss of their loved ones. Probably it is impossible for us to even imagine their despair, their hopelessness or appreciate the spirit of resignation that is their only safety valve. But with our ultimate hope and belief and joy in expectation we can lose some of the poignancy of the immediate loss in our hope of the future joys that will be and in the present joy of the ones who have gone before.

Very sincerely yours,

W. P. Ellis

R.

C. B. Fisher
دیرستان ذکور امریکائی ہمدان
AMERICAN BOYS' SCHOOL
Hamadan, Persia

Yes

NOV 2 1934

Oct. 12, 1934

Ans. ~~_____~~
Dr. Robert E. Speer,
153 Fifth Ave.,
New York.

Dear Dr. Speer:-

This is just another of the thousands of expressions of consternation and dismay at the barbaric slaying of Elliot Speer.

Mr. Allen has already cabled the condolences of the Mission and yet I cannot but try in this way to express that sympathy which is too deep for expression. What a price we must pay as a result of lethargy in our zeal for law enforcement in the U.S.A! But why those who have been most zealous should suffer is beyond our comprehension. My hope is that like the taking of the Lindberg baby this dastardly crime may help to awaken the conscience of America in time for something to be done about it.

With heartfelt sympathy at this particular time, I am,

Sincerely yours,

C. B. Fisher

J. A. Funk
AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
Hamadan, Persia.

October 10th, 1934.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:-

Hamadan Station has learned with utmost sadness of the tragic death of your son Elliot, and ^{at} its meeting yesterday has instructed me to write you expressing the sincerest sympathy of every member with you in this time of sorrow and bereavement.

The news reached us through newspaper clippings sent immediately after the event, and so we know nothing yet of further details as to motives for such a dastardly crime. Whatever the reason, it seems incomprehensible that ^a young life so full of promise should be cut off in this way.

Knowing you as we do, we know that you need no counsel from us as to how to meet such a blow. But we want you to know how much we sympathize with you and that our prayers are with. "My grace is sufficient."

Yours very sincerely,

On behalf of Hamadan Station,

J. A. Funk

Secretary.

David R Edwards

D. R. EDWARDS, PRES.
CASILLA 2004, VALPARAISO
G. B. DUTTON, SEC.
CASILLA 2037, SANTIAGO
NOV 7 1934

LA UNION EVANGELICA
THE CHILE MISSION
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

S. C. HENDERSON, TREAS.
CASILLA 1714, SANTIAGO
CABLE ADDRESS; INCULCATE
SANTIAGO VALPARAISO

Oct. 16, 1934.

Ans. _____

Dear Dr. Speer,

Today's letters from home brought us word of the tragedy that has taken your son Elliott from your family circle and left you all with a burden of grief and pain. Our hearts go out to you in human sympathy and our prayers are raised to our heavenly Father for each of you. Those of us who have not been called upon to bear the weight of a blow so heavy are not able to appreciate the suffering that it must entail in the heart of a mother or father or wife. We would help you bear it if we could. But our impotence is not despair for we know that your lives have been built upon the rock of faith in a loving God and Father. To Him you have gone in your need and He will carry you through.

On behalf of the Chile Mission and of Mrs. Edwards and myself personally wish to express to Mrs. Speer and yourself, to your daughter-in-law and the other members

D. R. EDWARDS, PRES.
CASILLA 2004, VALPARAISO
G. B. DUTTON, SEC.
CASILLA 2037, SANTIAGO

LA UNION EVANGELICA
THE CHILE MISSION
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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

S. C. HENDERSON, TREAS.
CASILLA 1714, SANTIAGO
CABLE ADDRESS; INCULCATE
SANTIAGO VALPARAISO

of the family our deep sorrow over your affliction and we hope that it may be the Father's will that we all be led to understand what we already believe because of His love for us — that His eyes are upon the righteous and His ears open to their cry, He upholdeth him with His hands and underneath are the everlasting arms.

In loving sympathy

David R. Edwards.

3 Empress Road. Lahore, India. 110
October 18th - 1934.

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer,

A wave of sorrow has gone around the world, in the hearts of the hundreds who loved your splendid son, Elliott, and are shocked at the suddenness and the manner of his call Home. And as the news has come, so the immediate urge to those who love you, his bereaved parents and his lovely wife, is to go at once in prayer to the One who alone can give any explanation of the need of this tragedy, that He may uphold and sustain you all, in this your hour of greatest need of comfort.

Jimmy Lucas wrote last Dec. 26th

"If I need advice I always go to Mr. Speer. He is my 'ever-present help in time of trouble'. I wish you could meet him, Daddy. I think you would like him very much.

If it were not for him I probably would not be nearly so happy as I am now. I hope you will write to him sometime and thank him."

Yet even his devotion to your wonderful son, was not able to hold the wander-urge in Jim! Nancy exclaimed shortly after we heard the sad news: "He was the only one we knew in America, who understood Jimmy!"

To Ted it has been a great sorrow. He writes fully of arriving on the afternoon of Sept. 14th about 3 o'clock; of going at once to Mr. Speer's home,

where he welcomed him most cordially. "He insisted on getting me a cup of milk and crackers, and we talked for fifteen minutes of his summer and mine." Then Mr. Speer took him down and introduced him at Crosley, and went on to his office. "That was the last time I saw him, for by 8 o'clock that evening he was dead."

Later on Ted writes: "He was, I think, the finest man whom I have known. Here there was universal sorrow and anger at the news. Everyone loved him." Ted's letter was so full, that in response to inquiries that came in, I sent out a number of type-written copies. Rhea was here when it came, and Anne writes from their mission meeting at Panhala: "Don't let us have any news you get, of dear Elliott Speer's death." It seems to us all as if a member

of our own family, and a beloved one, had gone!

My heart goes out to you both, in warm love, and inexpressible sympathy.

And I think much of Mrs. Elliott Spurr and her precious little family.

May God be with you all is the prayer of

Your devoted friend
Jane S. Ewing.

Paul A. Eakin

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
IN SIAM

570

OFFICE OF
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

717 Sathorn Road,
Bangkok, Siam.
Nov. 5th 1934.

Robert E. Speer D.D.
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y. U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Speer,

The latest religious periodicals and a letter from the Treasury Department which has just come bring the tragic news of the sudden and unexpected death of your son Elliot. I hasten to extend to you and Mrs. Speer as well as the immediate family the deep sympathy of the Siam Mission. While I did not personally know him, many others in the Mission did, and the news has come with a very deep sense of loss to the Christian cause. Coming as it has at practically the same time as the death of Mrs. Wilbur Franklin, we are again facing with you the age-old problem that has so often been expressed in the one word "Why?" And while we can never hope to give a complete answer, we do know that we are stirred once more to work harder and more sacrificially toward bringing in the Kingdom of God, when human personality will be held more sacred and the life and happiness of our loved ones will be better safe-guarded.

We are all praying that God's peace and comfort may richly abound in your stricken hearts, and that somehow this tragic experience may be used to glorify His Name.

Affectionately yours,

Paul A. Eakin

Executive Secretary.

Elizabeth Ferra

Dec. 10, 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I was disappointed not to see you again before I left. I especially wanted to thank you for your kindness to my mother. She too appreciates it, though it was still very hard for her to see me go and as yet she does not seem to have reconciled herself to it. I had so hoped that after the actual separation had occurred she would not be so distressed, but I am afraid she is.

Also I wish to thank you for your letter of farewell. It was most thoughtful of you to write it when I know how very busy you are. Miss Black and I had a very pleasant trip coming out.

Our hearts have gone out
to you in your recent be-
reavement. You have had our
prayers and sympathy. It is
a comfort to know that He,
the Great Comforter, has been your
Closest Friend at this time and
He, the Prince of Peace, has
given peace to you and
Mrs. Speer in these hours
of sorrow. Do remember me
to Mrs. Speer.

In two weeks as we are
honoring the birth of Him
who came to be the Prince
of Peace we shall be thinking
of you in the homeland, where
in the year to come He may
truly reign in the hearts of
many.

Very sincerely,

Elizabeth Farra.

R. E. Speer

Rhea M. Ewing

EWING CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

LUDHIANA, INDIA

NOV 28 1934

November 1, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer,

The rush of affairs in connection with the Annual Meeting has kept me from writing sooner of the very deep sympathy that Margaret and I have had in our hearts towards you and Mrs. Speer and the others who have had to bear the shock of the tragedy at Morist Hermon. And now I only want to say that I thank God for the love in which he holds you and for the peace and comfort that you are certain to have because of your long experience and faith in him.

Affectionately yours,

Rhea M. Ewing

W. A. Freidinger

R. E. Speer

Mrs. W. A. FREIDINGER
AMERICAN MISSION
SUK EL GHARB, LEBANON (SYRIA)

Jan. 5th 1935

JAN 20 1935

Robert E. Speer D.D. L.L.D.

Dear Dr. Speer,

Yesterday your letters to father
me were received and we both appreciate your
writing and all the comforting thoughts you
gave us.

At the time of your own great sorrow my first
impulse was to write to you & dear Mrs. Speer
and tell you how very deeply we sympathized
with you in the very tragic death of your son.

Then when I found that the Mission Secretary
was sending you a letter from the Mission, I
decided that would be enough & I would not
trouble you with one from me especially as I
knew you would be receiving so many.

of a separate home & so she + Father came to our house, planning to spend the winter with us and then return to their own home in the Spring.

But we soon saw that it was not so to be and that Mother was fast slipping away from us. I begged her to stay just a few months, ^{longer} until my sister Amy came, & she tried, but couldn't!

The Framans from India are expected in May and it is going to be a keen disappointment to my sister & so closely miss seeing her Mother.

The friends here in Suk El Ghoub have endeared themselves very much to us and we feel nearer to them than ever before.

We had a short service in our palace before going to Beni's

But now, although very late, please accept my deep sympathy to you both in this great sorrow that has come to you. You who have been through so much know how to sympathize with others very especially.

Of course we miss Mother very, very much but after all she had lived a long and beautiful life and her dear precious body had become too frail for the beautiful soul and so I've took her to be with him where there is more work to do and where she is better able to do it.

She failed very rapidly this fall and after settling comfortably in a nice little house just across the way from us, Mother found it too much for her to have the responsibility

All the morning from the time they heard the bell tolling people gathered until our lounge parlour was full to over-flowing so that they had to stand in the hall way.

At the close of the short service the men of the village asked if they might carry the casket to the end of the town (making us one of them) Six cars went from here to Besant with us & there again the huge assemblage at the church showed us better than words their love & sympathy. The gathering there was very characteristic of both Father & Mother in that there was a great mixture of all classes, poor and rich alike, American, English & Syrian, but the Syrians predominated. Some of Mother's "poor" insisted on going to the cemetery & having the casket opened (it had been sealed by the government) so as to see her once more. Many feel they have lost a very real mother.

I find it difficult to imagine any place where more love & sympathy is felt than right here in Sgria in the mission & out. It is very beautiful and very wonderful.

Great many callers came for days after to the house. The whole village came at the time of the funeral & I think most of them have been here since. At New years they all came again.

They were very much impressed when our family, including Father, appeared the next day at church as usual. They could not get over their surprise for this is an unheard of thing in this country — & the very next day!

Another thing which surprised them was that we did not weep nor show any outward signs of deep distress as they do at funerals.

Of course I feel sad when I think of the empty place
Korhio has left - but we are happy for her and we know
we shall all meet again some day & so we are comforted
& do not sorrow as though we did not have this hope."

"Ne yal hum, ne yal haam," "Lucky ones, fortunate

- ones you are would that we dared to do the same
but we can't break away from our customs, we
must mop, tear our hair, beat our breasts, wear
heavy ~~mourning~~ keep in the house - what shall we
do to break away from these difficult customs?"

There are already many who are trying to break away and
in time some of these difficult customs of theirs will change.

Then at Christmas we had our tree in our parlour
 as usual for our Sunday-school children &
 the candy bags were distributed as usual as
 they sat around the lighted tree to hear again
 the beautiful story which is always new.

They thought of course there would be no tree
 this year. But we told them that would
 have hurt my mother more than anything to
 have no give that up because we were in
 mourning for her.

And so in some way we hope that this
 sad experience has been an object lesson to
 them -

"Don't you feel sad & don't you ever cry?"
 they ask in wonder - "Of course I cry, &

I feel ashamed of my ⁸ long letter and I am
sure I have tired you all out - but then
you really don't have to read it all!

I was especially comforted in what you
wrote about our dear absent ones not being far
distant from us - I feel this very strongly &
love to feel they are nearer than we realize -

Please accept my love & sympathy
to both you & Mrs. Speer -

Very sincerely yours
Elizabeth Freidinger -

Mary. Forman Etah, U. P.

1882

Oct. 30th

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer

You already know that there are very many in India who are sharing with you your unspeakable sorrow. Possibly those of us who have been strengthened by words spoken or written by you in times of our bereavement, are

able to pray in a special
way, that you too may be
comforted now -

I have been thinking of the
joy with which John Forman
must have welcomed
you soon -

Yours with love & deepest
sympathy -
Mary Forman -

Tubing, Dec. 9th, 1934

Dear Dr. and Mrs Speer:- ~~115~~

Our hearts reach out to yours
as this season approaches and
we think of you and of Elliott's
wife and Children with special
sympathy and long to help in
some way. We know how tender
the memories will be and how blessed.

We remember them (the children) so well that summer at Lakeville when Margaret and Robert and they played so happily together.

Our Thanksgiving was made memorable this year by Robert fainting at the close of his song at the service. An attack of appendicitis had begun which culminated in an operation on Saturday following, he is now recuperating nicely and we hope will be well for Christmas.

May the Peace which passeth understanding be yours during all the days of the new year - ^{S. W. C.} _{7th} Ellises

with devinely given faith!

Ever sincerely

Theodore Calder Gley Steen

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer.

More than once yesterday and to-day. I have been thinking of you in your sorrow. It has comforted me to think of you for I believe human hearts could bear no greater love for a noble soul and I know how your faith will bring God and His Christ into your very hearts. And there will be the peace that passeth understanding.

We do think of you in your sorrow as those to whom we have always looked for a demonstration of the Spirit of God, and we have not been disappointed.

Very sincerely
Wm. H. Gley Steen

056
Presbyterian Mission,
Peking, China.

Sept. 17, 1934.

My dear Mr. and Mrs. Steer:-

To-day we learned of the
cablegram received by Margaret.
It will be difficult for her
to leave to wait for letters from
you. When a deep sorrow
like this comes, - one desires
intensely to leave the blessed
comfort of the family bond.
Though she can not be
with you in person, she
and her friends will be
with you in sympathy and
love.

Your own loss is a very
heavy one I know from
the remarks I have heard
about the attractive life
that has been so suddenly
taken away. How splendidly
he used his years!

May God comfort all
who loved him, and keep
them to interpret this experience

(Dictated)

115

Oct. 17th. '34

Dr. & Mrs. Speer,

My Very Dear Friends: -

This is my very first opportunity to write you since hearing in Kobe two days ago of the unspeakable Northfield tragedy. And even now I have no adequate words but I can not wait an hour longer to try to express to you my deepest sympathy and love. Seldom have I had such a shock and almost constantly you and all who were so near and dear to Elliott, are in my thoughts. And often I breathe a word of prayer to the Father who loves you with a greater love than that which you showered upon your son. How hard though it often is, at such

times, for His children to realize that. However my one consolation in thinking of you both and Margaret, Constance and Billy is that your perfect trust in Him is sustaining you. I do not know his wife but I am sure that she and their children, are also enfolded in the same everlasting arms, and resting in Him.

Oh, my dear friends, I simply can not find words to express my feelings. I feel literally weak all over when I think of that splendid young life snuffed out so suddenly by some one not worthy even of having a life. As I dictated that last sentence it came to me that the dear friends to whom I am writing and whose is the greatest grief at this time would not allow such thoughts about any one for whom the sufferings on the cross were borne. So I will try to control my own feelings.

How well I remember my visit in your home during the June conference of my first furlough when Elliot was just toddling around. I have a perfect picture in my mind of "Bunnie" running into the outstretched arms, at the words "Come to Daddy" when you, Dr. Speer, returned one day. I think I never saw him after that time until another June conference occasion at your home when he so graciously helped with the serving of the refreshments. That was after his splendid school education was finished and just

before he began his further education in the important work at Northfield.

I know that your rejoicing in the thought of the more glorious service into which he has suddenly entered makes the terrible loneliness more bearable. From my own experience I know that.

I think of dear Margaret over in China so far from the rest of you, and shall write to her as soon as possible.

Mrs. Speer, Miss Schultz very kindly sent me a copy of your "Lord Teach Us to Pray". So now when my eyes fall on that book I think "Praise the Lord, they know how to pray."

I will not ask you to read any more of my words but I will continue to talk to the Father about you.

I am feeling very much better the last few weeks and I am glad that I am not going to U.S.A. just yet.

With love to all the family, Sincerely, Mary P. G.

Wm

REV. FRANKLIN F. GRAHAM
PLANALTINA, EST. DE GOYAZ
BRAZIL

Oct. 27, 1934.

Dr. Robert S. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York.

Dear Dr. Speer, -

Sincerest love and sympathy
to you in which Mrs. Graham joins.

I remember Elliot as a
bright boy at your house in 1910.
I think I never saw him after
that.

Our loving Father will give
you and yours, I am sure, abundant
grace for this great trial.

Very sincerely,

F. F. Graham

NOV 7 1934

Tabriz, Persia

12-Oct-1934

M.G.

Ans.

My dear Dr. Spew. -

Just before leaving Teheran, the first of this week, we learned of the tragic, unbelievable death of your gifted, beloved son, Elliott. This will reach you long after that sad event; but I do want you to know that not a day has gone by without a prayer and thought for you and his dear mother and his own blessed wife and family.

How inexplicable such a sorrow seems! It is utterly bewildering. And while I am confident that you trust Him in utter faith, I do wish to express to you my sincere

neither see nor divine.

Very sincerely yours

B. S. Gifford.

and heart-felt sympathy at this time and
let you know - that however faulty has been
my expression of love for you in the past
that that love is very real; for with
hosts of your friends, I, too, love you.

' May the Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Father of Mercies, and the
God of all Comfort comfort you as He
alone can. And may you find, as
you have found before, that His strength
is made perfect in weakness and
that His Grace is sufficient for all
your needs. And it is my prayer that
somehow, as He surely must, God, out
of this overwhelming sorrow, will
bring a rich blessing to your hearts
and to others, that now we can

WALTER A. GROVES
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TEHRAN
TEHRAN, PERSIA

WS

October 12, 1934

Dear Doctor and Mrs Sperr, —

Word has just reached us in Persia of Elliot's terrible death. Nothing could shock us more than this news. Our hearts go out to you in sincere sympathy. Under any circumstances the pain of such a loss is difficult to bear, and yet after the trying times of the last four years which you both have had this totally unexpected blow is the more difficult to suffer and understand. We, with many many other friends and fellow workers, are thinking and praying earnestly for you

that Christ in his mercy and great love
may keep and comfort you both.

Very sincerely yours

Walter A. Goss

W. G. Greenslade

SYRIA MISSION

S-53

OFFICE OF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
and
SECRETARY

The Board of Foreign Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

BEIRUT Oct. 4, 1934

WGS

OCT 25 1934

~~Ans.~~

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 5th Ave.
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer,

Word has come to us through the papers of the great bereavement which your family has sustained in the sudden death of your son, Mr. Elliott Speer. This news was a great shock to all of us. At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Mission, which was held a few days ago, I was instructed to express to you and Mrs. Speer our deepest sympathy. I do this not only officially for the Mission, but wish to express my own personal sympathy as well. It is difficult for us at this distance to realize what a great sorrow this must be to you, but we do share in that sorrow. We know that it is not so great a burden as it would be if we had not our confident faith in a risen Christ, and the present comfort of his Spirit.

With warmest personal regards,

Most sincerely yours,

W. G. Greenslade

W. G. Greenslade
Secretary

WGG.na

McGILVARY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

CHIENGMAL, SIAM. November 5, 1934

fm

Dr Robert E. Speer
Board of Foreign Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr Speer,-

We have heard of the tragic death of your son, Mr Elliott Speer, through a letter from Dr Harris and we have also seen notices of it in the Springfield Republican. Mrs Gillies and I feel that we must let you know that we share in the sorrow of yourself and your family, even though it can only be in a small way.

There is something awesome in the thought that any human being can be overcome of evil so far as to take the life of a good man who was devoting himself entirely to the service of mankind. It makes one realize the depths of one's dependence upon the grace of God.

I have been thinking much during recent months on the gospel declaration that God is love. In the midst of so much that seems to look the other way one is driven to seek a sure footing in eternal truth. The fact of God in Christ present everywhere and working ceaselessly in His infinite love has become to me more than ever before the one central assurance. ~~Fix~~ It is the grand certainty.

The news of Mr Speer's death brought into my mind the words of Jesus in Luke 12.6 -, "Are not five sparrows sold for two pence? and not one of them is forgotten in the sight of God. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; ye are of more value than many sparrows." When your son fell by that fatal shot, where did he fall but into the arms of his Heavenly Father. One cannot help but feel an element of mystery in the sudden cutting off in its prime of such a life; but I am sure you have felt the love of God close around you during these days, sharing in your sorrow.

Yours in Christian brotherhood,

R M Gillies

Charles A. Gunn

AMERICAN MAIL LINE

JAPAN · CHINA · PHILIPPINES

DEC. 2, 1934

570
Nov. 10 - 1934

ON BOARD

Pres. Jackson

~~Ans.~~
Dear Dr. Spur:

Mrs. Gunn and I want you and Mrs. Spur to know something of how deeply we sympathize with you in the sorrow that has recently come into your lives. We were all so stunned by the fragmentary information that first reached us that it is even yet hard to express our real feelings.

We never knew Elliott except by reputation and as the son of his parents but we lost our only son when he was ten years old and know the vacancy that it leaves in the lives of parents, even though it does bring Heaven closer to our consciousness. We joy in the thought of our Sandy and Marion at home in the Father's house.



We are on our way to the

winter's work in Peiping, after two weeks
in Canton - getting figures on Pui Hing
buildings and consulting with Hackett
staff regarding the immediate program
there. I am sending to Dr. Mellor a
birds-eye view of the proposed Pui Hing
buildings at Peak Hok Tung, together with
several smaller prints from the same drawing;
in case there are others interested, more
copies of the latter can be sent at any time.

affectionately yours

Chas. A. Gunn

James A. Graham
Taguilaran

Bohol Philippine Islands
Nov 24/34

My Dear Dr Spear: -

No doubt you have been deluged with expressions of sympathy in regard to your great sorrow, so please pardon my great desire to also "press your hand".

Years ago I was helped by a little story told of one of your sons, while he was a very little chap, waking up during the night, and feeling a little nervous in the dark, asking if you were there. On being assured he asked yet again if you were "looking his way". The story as told was that you turned in your bed and gave the child confidence that you were facing towards him.

I would just like to give this little story back to you again with the great reminder that "Father is looking your way".

With love and sympathy to
you and your family

Yours Sincerely,
James A. Graham

R. E. Spear

Carrie R. Gould

DEC 24 1934

A. B. _____

[Handwritten mark]

In Camp,
Ambala Dist.

Nov. 28. 1934

Dear Mr. Spear,

It was with great grief we heard the sad news of your loss. And we were so grateful to Mr. McLife for writing all the details known. His letter reached us at Annual Meeting. We can only think that someone insane was guilty of the deed.

Our hearts and prayers have gone out to you and Mrs. Spear. The past few years you have carried such a heavy burden, with the financial stress, and with the attacks of adversaries.

We have been filled with gratitude for your loyalty, not only to the Missiary enterprise, but to us Missiaries, personally, and thank God for the able answers you have given, to both types of extremists! In our human love, we would have saved you from any further trial or sorrow. But God's love and wisdom have permitted this fresh sorrow. The old "Why?" will rise up. We can only take comfort

in the knowledge that in your affliction He is afflicted and bears the sorrow with you, for we feel so helpless before the mystery of death.

"What I do, thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."

It is hard to realize yet that Mr. Veltz has left us. His going was very peaceful, and the funeral service held a deep note of triumph. He has joined the pioneers of our Mission Circle, of whom he spoke so beautifully at the Centenary of the Mission a month ago.

I so much enjoyed reading Mrs. Spens' little book on prayer, which Miss Bow sent me this fall.

Trusting you are both well, and with loving sympathy from both Mr. Gould and myself,

Sincerely Yours,

Carrie N. Gould.

補遺

Dear Dr. Speer:

Our Peking paper has an unconfirmed report of your son's sudden death. Which not being corrected, we fear is true. (and our hearts go out in true sympathy to you. May the Lord who alone can comfort, be with you in this trial, and enable you to see that He must have His plan in this affliction. I have learned that He can comfort when no one else can - tho the sense of pain is still there.

Yours in loving sympathy

年

W. W. Hayes. □

Osaka, Japan.

Nov. 7, 1934.

Am

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Speer,
My heart goes out
to you all in loving
sympathy in your sorrow.

You have helped me
at different times with your
messages of comfort and hope
and I wish that there was
something that I could do or
say to lighten your burden
even a little.

My heart aches for
your daughter-in-law and the
little children, but I know
that she will find, as many
of us who have walked this



So, where He leads me, I can safely go,
And in the best hereafter I shall know,
Why, in His wisdom, He hath led me so.

Very sincerely yours,

Hannet Wyckoff Hall.

lonely road have found,
that our dear Lord never fails
us, but gives us strength for
each day as it comes.

There is a poem by an unknown
author of which I am very fond.
You probably know it, but I should
like to bring it to your remem-
brance again.

In the Twenty-third Psalm.

"Pastures green"? Not always; sometimes He
knoweth best, in kindness leadeth me
to many ways, where heavy shadows be.

And by "still waters"? No, not always so;
ofttimes the heavy tempests round me blow,
And o'er my soul the waves and billows go.

But when the storm beats loudest, and I cry
Thro' doubt for help, the Master standeth by,
And whispers to my soul, "Lo, it is I."

Allahabad
Oct. 17, '34.

No

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer,-
I want to briefly
add my word of loving
sympathy to Sam's.

I thank God that you
have had a chance to see
Elliott serving God so
splendidly all these
years, although we all
sorrow that one so
wonderfully capable
should have been taken
out of the world.

I am so sorry for
your personal loss and

thank God for your
deep abiding faith and
for you many friends
who, with us, are
bearing you on their
hearts in prayer that
our Loving Heavenly
Father may give the
comfort and peace
which passeth under-
standing.

Sincerely
Ethel C. Higginbottom

ask,



TÉLÉGRAMMES
BEAURIVAGE-OUCHY

BEAU-RIVAGE-PALACE

OUCHY-LAUSANNE

Switzerland

October 13. 1834

My very dear friend,

So far away

Switzerland I learn of - your

great sorrow & I trust - you to know

that I am thinking of you most

tendly, asking the - Divine blessing

of reconciliation to God's will -

to bring perfect-peace.

I know how beautiful was

to you example of resignation

My Love the Source of all strength
will never fail.

With Love my deepest sympathy

Yours devotedly

Frederick Hoff

E. H. Hudson
SYRIA MISSION
of
The Board of Foreign Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Oct 8

E. H. HUDSON, M.D.
AMERICAN MISSION
DEIR EZ-ZOR, SYRIA

R. E. Speer

OCT 25 1934

Birnat, Oct 8, 1934

My dear Dr. Speer -

Mrs. Hudson and I wish you to know how much we sympathize with you and Mrs. Speer in the tragic loss of your son Elliott, and we pray that you have been given a full measure of sustaining comfort from on high, in these days of great sadness.

With warm regards, sincerely
E. H. Hudson

HALF A CENTURY OF EVANGELIZATION

IN KOREA

018

STATIONS

SINPIN.	1921
KANGKAI.	1909
SYENCHUN.	1901
PYENGYANG.	1895
CHAIRYUNG.	1906
SEOUL.	1884
CHUNGJU.	1908
ANDONG.	1910
TAIKU.	1899

1884



1934

STATISTICS

MISSION FORCE	156
KOREAN PASTORS.	341
CHURCHES.	1,558
COMMUNICANTS.	73,657
ENROLLED IN BIBLE	
CONFERENCES	110,954
PERSONS TREATED IN HOSPITALS	
AND DISPENSARIES	42,000
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	YEN 742,623
	\$ 250,000

CHOSEN MISSION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

Sunham, N.C.

CHOSEN, JAPAN

Sept 18th 1934

My Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer:

We have just read in the paper the news of the shocking death of your son Elliott.

Only a few days ago in New England one of my cousins, whose son is a student at Mt. Hermon, was speaking of his admiration for Elliott as head-master, and telling me how happy and successful his boy was under his direction.

One is led to inquire what has transformed this beautiful America!

Not in heathen lands are such actions heard of! Why then in America!!

I presume we must each try to answer his or her own questions of this nature.

no matter what the cause or why you personally
have our deepest sympathy and prayerful
support at the mercy seat.

We missed you on the occasion of our
calls at 156 Fifth Ave, but will hope
to be more successful next time.

We have been in Durham just one
week and are not yet properly
settled. Our goods from Korea arrived
today. We are anticipating a new
phase in our lives because of the
new orientation.

Not knowing why bereavements
come into our lives, but believing
that our Father know all about it
we struggle onward trusting in
Him and awaiting His revelations.

With sorrowing hearts we are
following on, with you, to know the truth.

Every sincerely yours

Dr. Mrs. J. W. Hirst.

Box 4061,
Subl Station
Durham, N.C.

A. G. Howard

MS

NOV 7 1934

Kodoli, India,
Oct. 8, 1934.

Dear Dr. Spear,

This morning we were shocked by the news Miss Duke received by air mail of the great sorrow that has come to you.

In the midst of your grief may you realize even the more clearly the presence of Him who has come to carry our griefs and as you pass through the rivers of sorrow may you find the promise fulfilled, "they shall not overflow thee."

It must be a comfort and a joy to you to think of the important work for the Kingdom in which your son was spending his life in the training of boys at the Mt. Hermon School. Much more valuable service must be that to which he has been called by Him in whose hands are our times. I recall a quotation from a letter of yours in the life of "Borden of Yale" about the greatness of the service to which he must have been called. We rejoice that this life is not all.

Some years ago I wrote Dr. Benson that I regretted very much that in the revised hymnal a certain stanza of "The sands of time are sinking," had been omitted as I had found that stanza so very helpful on many occasions. He replied that if he were making another revision he would include it. He did include it in his

own hymnbook.

"With mercy and with judgment
 My web of time He wove,
 And aye the dews of sorrow
 Were luster'd by His love.
 I'll bless the Hand that guided,
 I'll bless the Heart that planned,
 When throned where glory dwelleth
 In Immanuel's land."

May His comfort and strength be yours.
 Your friend,
 F. G. Howard.

S. C. HENDERSON
AV. MIGUEL CLARO 614
TELÉFONO 61678
CASILLA 1714
SANTIAGO
CHILE

NOV 7 1934

◇

~~Ans.~~

Oct. 18, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

We have just received on this mail the sad news of the tragic death of your son Elliott. We did not know him, but we want you to know that our sympathies are with you and we are praying that the Holy Spirit, the Divine Comforter, may fill your heart with love that no unholy hatred embitter your life.

Mrs. Henderson joins me in this expression of our heartfelt sympathy and love to you and Mrs. Speer.

Most sincerely yours,

S. C. Henderson

MJ
Benjamin H. Hummel

MACKENZIE COLLEGE

SÃO PAULO

Gabinete do Presidente

Sao Paulo
Oct 30 - 1954

Dear David Mrs Speer -

I want add one more vote of sympathy to the many you will be receiving. Having been through a number of tragic events with our own children - the none so grave as yours - I can realize what has come to you. However I feel assured of your courage and Faith sufficient for such a blow, and can but add another prayer that His Comfort shall be yours.

I saw your son only for a moment when Mr. Inman took me to Northfield, but am glad to have this memory.

You will be pleased to know the many problems here seem in process of solution and that Rev. Miguel Rizzo Junior is giving a series of studies on Religious subjects in the College.

Once again assuring you of our deep felt sympathy and high esteem,
I am -

Yours in His Service
Benjamin H. Hummel

W. F. Hereford

Hiroshima, Japan, Oct. 18, 1934.

Dr. R. E. Speer, New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer:- I want to express my deepest sympathy with you in this time of sorrow. It is so much better to die without enemies than to live with them.

I did not know your son, but those who did speak most highly of him. Dr. Harry Meyers of the Southern Church told me of how dearly his daughter and her husband loved him. Said they met him and attended his church in New York and were simply charmed by him.

This is simply to tell you that I love you and admire you and that it hurts me to see you have to suffer. I would starve before I would take support from that independent Board. I consider myself as fundamental as they are too. I believe every one of the disputed points. I also believe in telling the truth, praying together and in brotherly love. I believe Jesus and John the Baptist were right when they told the Pharisees to repent.

May God abundantly bless you and fill your last years not only with success, but with joy, and continue to give you good-will towards those who do not speak more highly of you than they ought to speak.

Cordially your friend and brother:

W. F. Hereford.

528

American Mission
Beirut, Syria
October 5, 1934

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:—

Today I pray that the tenderness & love of our Father God may so enfold you, before & behind, and on every side, that you may bear in strength the agony of grief which has been put upon you through evil-doing, to be borne.

No man is without the message which calls him to a life of faith & goodness, but, if he chooses evil, then he works havoc. And to those who belong

to God - to their bodies, but
not to the life eternal which
is hidden from harm with
God himself.

The Lord is very pitiful
& He will sustain you
& yours, & comfort you
& heal you.

And with courage, not
of earth, you will be
enabled to go on, not-
withstanding — because
so many of us are ask-
ing daily that these bless-
ings may be yours.

With tenderest sympathy
& love,

Faithfully yours

Othora M. Horns

J. G. Holdcroft

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. G. HOLDCROFT, CHAIRMAN
H. E. BLAIR, N. C. WHITEMORE,
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A. D. BIGGER, BLANCHE I. STEVENS.

OF THE
CHOSEN MISSION
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN
CHONGNO 2-91 SEOUL, KOREA.
TELEPHONE KOKAMON 557.

NOV 21 1934

9/10/34

October 29th 1934

Dr. Robert L. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N. Y.
U. S. A

Dear Dr. Speer:

On behalf of the Chosen Mission I want to extend to you our heartfelt sympathy and express our sense of horror over the tragedy that occurred in your family. We could not believe it true when we first heard the report but later reports have made it only too evident that it was true. We do not understand how these things can be but we know that you who have been an example in so many things will also be strong in faith and in trust *in* God even in this great trial.

We know there is little that we can do to aid or comfort you and Mrs. Speer but we hope it will be a comfort to you to know that all throughout our Mission there are many who have been praying for you since this dreadful news first came.

Please do not take time to reply to this letter. We only wanted to let you know that we in common with thousands of your other friends sympathize with you and are praying for you.

Most sincerely yours,

J. G. Holdcroft

6

P. E. Spear

A. E. Harper

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR VILLAGE TEACHERS
PUNJAB MISSION, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U. S. A.
MOGA, INDIA.

711

Oct. 18, 1934

REV. A. E. HARPER, M.A., Ed.D.

Dear D. Spear:

Our hearts have been going out to you, dear friend in these days. God must have had some great purpose in allowing such a life of usefulness and blessing to be taken from His service on earth. All have spoken so wonderfully of you son.

We know His grace is sufficient for you and your dear ones, and some day we shall understand why this had to be. His ways are not our way but we do know they are best.

A few days ago, a lad, son of a M. Z. Presb. Mission friend died suddenly at Woodstock School. One son Edwin writing of it said "I never knew as well what a help it was to be a Christian, as when this friend of mine was taken away"

With warm affectionate greetings to you and to all your dear ones,
I am,

Yours sincerely,
A. E. Harper

Union Theological Seminary
Ferran and Taft Ave.
Manila, P.I.

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

NOV 23 1934

Oct. 26, 1934

P. O. BOX 841

Dr. Robert E. Speer, Secretary
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My Dear Dr. Speer:

I cannot put into words the anguish of heart which I have experienced since learning of the tragic death of your beloved son Elliot, a man of such high Christian character and attainments and who was giving such a splendid Christian service in the training of youth.

Untimely, seems the only view we can take of this sad event as we view it with our limited human vision. But somehow back of all, our faith will not falter in the wisdom and love of the Father who permitted Elliot to pass in this way.

He has left a noble record and has gone on to a higher service. Our hearts go out in a flood of love and sympathy to Mrs. Speer and yourself and to his dear wife and children (I do not know just what ~~the~~ children there are).

I know that you who have been permitted to speak the message of sympathy and comfort to thousands of others have been sustained and kept by the everlasting arms that are ever underneath us and by the conscious presence of the Saviour who walked for us the path of sorrow and suffering, but who pledged Himself never to leave us nor forsake us.

I am sure that through all this dark affliction there shines the light of the Saviour's face.

Let me thank you for your cordial letter received several months ago regarding Kingsley. He is now in Europe. For the month of October he is studying in the Sorbonne and will begin his Fellowship courses in Strassburg in November.

Mrs. Hamilton joins me in deepest sympathy at this time.

Sincerely yours,

Charles R. Hamilton
CHARLES R. HAMILTON
President

CRH/bcq

P. W. Harrison

P. W. HARRISON, M. D.

AMERICAN MISSION
MUSCAT, ARABIA

Nov. 1, 1984

Dear Dr. Speer:--

I learned from Time the dreadful news of Elliott's death. Words are very unsatisfactory agents at such a time, but Monty and I want to at least tell you and Mrs. Speer, and most of all Mrs. Elliott, that in these days you will be carried on our hearts and in our prayers.

You will be feeling that burdens have multiplied in many directions in these days. I am afraid that no matter what our hearts may desire, most of us can do little toward lightening them. Lots and lots of us though will be carrying our own loads better from watching you.

Elliott left behind him a good piece of work, well done. We will all of us hope for nothing better to be said of us when the time comes. May God take us who are left, and particularly in these impossibly difficult days, "fulfill every desire of goodness and every work of faith in power".

Yours most sincerely,

P. W. Harrison

Sunday Rural Church Visitation
Christian Student Center
Daily Church School
Bethany Hospital
Tuesday Rural Clinics
Bible Translation

J. A. Hall

The Presbyterian Mission
Tacloban, Leyte, P. I.

156

DEC 8 1934

November 1st, 1934.

Rev. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Ave
New York City.

Dear Dr Speer:

This is just a note to you and Mrs Speer to express our deep sorrow on learning of the shocking tragedy which befell Elliott. A letter from Dr Magill added a note to say that the news had just come over the radio but he could give no particulars. It was the daily conversation at our recent meeting in Manila and we learned more about it from the papers. We do not know as yet just how it all came about except that one paper thought it to have been the act of a half demented student.

We met Elliott and Mrs Speer in Northfield when visiting there in 1928. I liked him very much. Humanly speaking, it would seem that he is the kind of man needed in this day here in the world. Truly God moves in a mysterious way. We can only bow to His will.

A classmate of mine, surgeon to the C.P.R. at Vancouver recently met with a similar fate at the hand of a deranged railway man he had been treating.

It will be a comfort to remember that Elliott was carrying on at the time of his death and that he was called away of God. I am sure that while in Northfield, he upheld the best traditions of the Northfield spirit. He will long live in the hearts of the young men and women who will derive a satisfaction from having come under his influence.

Mrs Hall joins me in prayer that God may comfort you and Mrs Speer.

Sincerely yours,

J. Andrew Hall

Presbyterian Mission
Box 437
Manila, P. I.

October 31, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer:

Please allow Mrs. Hibbard and myself to add one more word of love and sympathy to those of your many friends all over the world.

We do not try to explain or to understand it, we only thank God for the place the Master is preparing where these heartbreaking trials shall be ended. As we all draw nearer to the gates, his "Place" becomes more beautiful and real and desirable.

We just received a cable telling of the home-going of my younger brother, - a doctor in Wichita Kansas. He was an elder in the First Presbyterian Church there.

Please do not try to answer this note, it is not necessary. Since receiving Dr. McAfee's letter we have remembered you and your loved ones in our daily prayers.

Sincerely yours,

D. S. Hibbard.

R. E. Sheer

Sam Higginbottom

710

1934

Allahabad Christian College
American Presbyterian Mission

HOLLAND HALL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
EWING CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE
JUMNA HIGH SCHOOL

Please reply to—
AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE
ALLAHABAD, INDIA

Oct: 16. 34

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

My dear Dr & Mrs Sheer,

Elizabeth brought us the word from Lahore that Elliot had been shot at his desk. This seemed impossible to believe. But since then, I have seen a brief newspaper clipping which confirms it.

I write to express my sympathy with you in this your irreparable loss. To pray that God Himself may comfort your hearts. The Welsh minister who came to comfort my mother when my father died referred her to that gracious verse in the ninety first psalm. I will be with them in trouble. For some things the angels were good enough, but in trouble God's own presence is with us. I greatly regretted that on my last visit to America, I had only about

Allahabad Christian College
American Presbyterian Mission

HOLLAND HALL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
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AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE
JUMNA HIGH SCHOOL

Please reply to—
AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE
ALLAHABAD, INDIA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Three hours at Northfield and
mornl-hermon. After speaking to the
boys I had lunch with Elliot- his
wife in the main dining room.
I left- hermon thanking God that
the school was in such good hands.
Elliot- seemed so happy, so full of
plans, so radiant & vibrant; that-
I felt- there was the man for the job,
and now Elliot- is absent- from the
body and present- with the Lord.
Among that- cloud of witnesses
urging us to run our race in
a worthy manner, of which he
gave us a good example.
Again may I express my sympathy.
How I wish there was something
more than words to express what-
one feels at- a time like this.
As ever yours sincerely
Sam Higginbottom

GUATEMALA NEWS

ORGAN OF THE GUATEMALA MISSION

VOL. XXV {

GUATEMALA, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1934.

} N^os. 10, 11.

PERSONAL REPORTS

1933--1934

(The personal reports of the missionaries this year are full of points to which we wish to call attention as they appear. Together they show that the Guatemala Mission is not a work of flabby undigested sentimentalism, but is a going concern forwarded by agents who are very much in earnest. The work is growing tho the missionary force is not, and this means more work for each. It also brings into relief the importance and necessity of developing the autonomy of the native church with the greatest possible speed.- H.)

Report of Dr. Ainslie

[Note:—

1. The bearing of altitude on missionary health.
2. The outfield reach of the medical department.
3. The bereavements of our "beloved physician".

Ed.]

The past year has been one of the least exciting of recent memory. Clinics, operations, care of bed patients, care of our home and children, all have taken up their share of our time. In the home we have seen our three children, one after the other come down with and slowly get over attacks of measles. Only in our oldest boy do we find any after effects. He has not recovered as he should, and altho full of energy is still under par, and of not satisfactory strength nor color. There may have to be radical changes in household plans if decided improvement is not soon seen. A request for leave of absence of the whole family for a year or as long as may be deemed necessary is not a very remote possibility. All the children seem to have good health as long as they live at low altitudes, and to lose it when they have to stay long in higher ones. The large grounds which surround our present home provide lots of fun for the children with the quite elaborate tree house, the swimming pool the riding horses, the rabbits and the garden. This elaborate set-up is the

result of the planning of a former president of the country and due to present crisis is being cheaply rented. A place more self-sufficient and adequate for the needs of a growing family, and at the same time economical, could scarcely be found again.

In March and April the ambulance trips were undertaken, and the first one on the shores of lake Atilán resulted in a good rest for all of us and few patients treated, while the one next in order at Tecpán was the reverse—little rest and an over-flow of patients. Beginning with only 25 the first day, the number of those treated soon mounted to well over 100 a day, with the surrounding hillsides covered with little family groups encamped there waiting their turns. Sometimes these waits lengthened to 3 or even 4 days before admittance was gained. We are thankful for the opportunity.

Just before Mission meeting last year we were saddened to hear by cable, of the death of our father, Rev. John A. Ainslie in Calif. In Nov. of last year we were gladdened by the long delayed visit to Guatemala of our mother Mrs. Ellen Ainslie and our sister Kate. Mrs. Ainslie has long wanted to visit us but has been prevented until now. However the visit and long journey proved to be

too much for one who as nearing 80 years and who had had the recent shock of the death of her husband. The visit proved to be a permanent one for Mrs. Ainslie and she was called home Jan. of this year, just 4 months after the death of her husband.

Since the personal report and that of the hospital are so much of a unit and dove-tail so closely, the rest of the personal work of ourselves will have to be read into and found in the annual hospital report.

For guidance for the coming year we do most earnestly pray, and at the same time rest on His promises and care.

Respectfully submitted.

Report of Miss Baker

[Note:—

1.—What one woman, who would be called a helpless invalid by 9 ladies out of 10, is accomplishing by grit and consecration. 2. Read this report and see where Miss Baker's heart is. 3. The policy for Christianizing the home through the school.—Ed.]

Another year of work and pleasure, of defeat and victory—and of much satisfaction has gone into history. We take heart when we remember that our Heavenly Father who knows all things, is a merciful God, capable of turning our biggest blunders into blessings.

Just after last Mission Meeting we presented our Program in English, before three hundred people, receiving many congratulations and seeing much satisfaction on the part of parents who had sent their children here principally because of their desire that the children study English. Of course in many cases it is a mistaken ambition but each child attending for whatever reason, presents an opportunity that we never let pass, for cultivating respect for and interest in the Gospel—and you would be surprised how soon the majority of the pupils begin to show signs of an acceptance of the message and development in Christian character.

For example, last week a mother started to "cross" her daughter of twelve years, who has been with us as a day pupil only two months. The child said, "No mother, I am a Protestant now and in my prayer I shall ask God to protect me". The mother told me of it with a great deal of satisfaction, having lived in the United States where

she had the fortune to see the fruits of real Christianity.

In January several members of the Church helped with the final examinations in Bible, expressing approval of the results.

On Jan 20 fifty ex-companions passed a happy day with us in the Ex-Teachers' and Ex-Students' Annual Reunion. Dr. Haymaker contributed much to the program recounting early efforts at opening Mission Schools and bringing to our minds the names of those of our friends in the States who contributed so liberally toward the buildings and made possible our present comfortable situation. After a typical picnic lunch served in the school dining room, several teachers and students recalled happy days together here, dating back to 1912 when the school was organized. The organization of the Association followed. The idea is so new here that it has taken two full years to arouse enthusiasm and to call attention to the service that the ex-students' can render to their Alma Mater. Now, we feel that the school has entered into a new and broad field of activity where the former pupils—and especially the graduates—can be of real service to the Gospel. Dr. Sulzenberger who has been more or less actively connected with the school since its beginning, will talk to that point before the next reunion which will be celebrated on Nov. 17. The ex-students number much more than a thousand and the graduates near a hundred, many of whom have gone on into higher education, now serving as graduate teachers or nurses. It gives us who have worked directly with the students, reason to thank God for the large number of Christian homes that have already resulted from among former students and teachers. You know "the home is the fulcrum by which woman moves the world," and the Christian home is and will be, the determining influence in the spread of the Gospel in Guatemala.

This year we have the usual number enrolled, with surprisingly few dropping out. Other years have seen more matriculating and many dropping out. It seems now that there will be more than ever staying on through the final examinations. We are receiving new pupils every month.

Our method of co-education is calling

more the attention of the public. This country is fast getting around to it. The thesis of one of the most prominent graduates of the University this year was an argument in favor of co-education and its possibilities in solving the sex-problem in Latin America. By means of our school and others that are gradually multiplying, the public is becoming accustomed and the conviction growing, that it is the only way to rear children and young people. I predict that a secondary school (mixed) will appear very soon. (You note that Dr. Sam Higginbotham is admitting girls to the Agricultural school now).

The eight graduates of the past year, including one boy, form one of the most promising classes that we have had. Five of them among fourteen of our graduates of the past three years, are going on studying. The others would have done so but for the tuition now charged in the government secondary schools—a small sum, but our pupils as a rule are very poor.

Having had four of the boys of the Industrial School examined along with their presence in the closing exercises and their exhibit of Industrial work, added interest and enthusiasm to our closing days, and accentuated the co-education idea. Their exhibition game of basket ball and that of our girls lent variety to the closing program.

Vacation (March and April) passed very happily with three weeks of rest in the coast, visiting the Friends mission, viewing the Mayan ruins in Quiriguá and having two quiet weeks in the Haymaker Rest Home.

Then the new Catalogue was published and the letters began to fly to all parts of the Republic. On May 11 a special Chapel Service was held, inviting the parents and members of the congregation.— Dr. Sullenberger and a native Pastor brought the messages from the Sacred Word and spoke of the importance of education under Christian influence, making the pupils see their advantage. A social hour followed. The new students were invited to a "get-acquainted" picnic, the day before that set by the Government for the formal opening.

The uncertainty as to support of the school caused us to cut the salaries until we were cut to half day and one was

not allowed to begin until July, in order to save two months of her salary. The result is that she is far behind with her work and the writer with hers for having divided her time between English classes and the other teacher's work.

A small debt to the teachers was left over and paid recently when a parent of last year finally paid his bill.

The cooperation of the teachers in the face of curtailed salaries, has been marvellous. Their attendance and punctuality are almost perfect.

Eight of the ten teachers are graduates, one of the others is studying Kindergarten Training and the other lacks very little of having finished. They are all capable, active, enthusiastic, consecrated Christians, occupying important places in our Church work as well. A finer group could not be found for directing and inspiring children in their school duties and spiritual development.

Mrs. Sullenberger, out of her busy life, teaches three classes of Arithmetic, thus curtailing our expense, and taking advantage of the opportunity to cultivate the acquaintance of the students.

Through the Guatemala News you have known of the Arbor Day celebration and of the School Garden; of the Temperance Work so efficacious and interesting conducted by an International Sec'y. of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Mary B. Egbert; of our participation again in the National Independence Day Parade. The teachers are preparing a Christmas Festival for the benefit especially of the families represented in the school who do not attend the Church services (thirty children come from such homes). The Chapel Devotional Services each week are lead in turn by a teacher, a native Pastor, Dr. Sullenberger, a class group, and a young Bible woman who reviews the Sunday School lesson for Sunday following. Several of the older pupils are keeping a notebook with the outline of the messages, the expectation of using the notes some day when they teach Bible classes or lead services as they expect to do in their own town. Pray that they remain faithful Christians and that they be leaders in their community.

There has been an annual increase in the advertising of the school, because of the desire to have pupils from a large sphere. The announcement goes out

every month in the Spanish paper published by Dr. Haymaker; the Educational Magazine published here mentions it frequently along with the other schools; an article with two views appeared in the Diplomatic Magazine published here; the Agricultural Magazine published a view taken on Arbor day in the school garden; and a complete announcement came out along with those of other schools, in the Daily papers, during the month before schools opened.

The library gradually increases as the writer finds books of interest and profit to children and teachers, and as funds permit.

During the year we have read six books published by local authors, two others also in Spanish, translated from English, and one in English, a historical treatise on the first capital of Guatemala. One treated of Educational Psychology and modern methods of teaching. It is now in the hands of the teachers.

The writer has had the class of eight year olds in Sunday School, has helped with the music in the various services when time and strength permitted. Just now some time is being used serving as a member of a committee called by the Minister of Education to make a collection of School Songs. The Com. consists of the Gen. Sec'y. of Education, the Director of the National Conservatory of Music, his first ass't., two poets, a novelist, a leader of a Military Band, Sec'y. of the Extension Dept., the Ministry of Public Education, Sec'y. of Dept. of Secondary Schools, and four Principals of Public Schools and the writer representing the Private Schools. We rejoice in the opportunity to contribute toward the collecting of children's songs until now a very barren field in the Spanish language. Thanks to American Hospital for its free service to pupils.

Looking back over the year and taking an inventory we find that there have been multiple opportunities to have left indelible impressions of the Spirit of Christ on many impressionable lives. Counting with the example of our consecrated teachers and matrons; with the Daily Bible classes; with the Daily Devotional Message in Chapel; with the Bible reading at the breakfast table

and grace with each meal; with the Sunday School; with the Intermediate C. E. where all the boarding children attend each Sunday afternoon, acting as officials and taking part as leaders, etc.; attendance upon one or two night Church services weekly; and taking into account the general atmosphere of order, of reverence, of dedication to the work in hand, of appreciation for the preparation which is offered to help make life successful, satisfactory and happy, the absolutely hygienic conditions which we have, the abundant and approximate food, the basket ball and other good exercise, and the beautiful natural surroundings, there seems to be no reason why the children entrusted to our care should not develop well-ordered, healthy, well rounded Christian lives.

We again commend all that we have and are into the hands of a kind Heavenly Father who knows how to proportion His grace according to the needs of each child. Every day we consciously build for Eternity.

Respectfully submitted.

Miss Bestwick's Report

[Note:—

1. That Miss Bestwick is now a double R. N.
2. That she balks at no personal sacrifice to make her noble calling effective.
3. That her work has all the "spice of life" that any one could ask.—Ed.]

As the old year slowly goes into the new we look back and think we would do so differently if we had it to live over again, but there is so much to be thankful for I cannot even stop for regrets. I am very happy for the results of the past year and feel that they have been the door for doing the work on a much larger scale this coming year.

I have in my home a few beds which are in rooms not directly connected with my living quarters and yet just a few steps away. I receive patients from time to time. These rooms have been occupied almost all of the last year by a young lady with tuberculosis. With her there it has been impossible to receive the many Obstetrical cases that have applied for care. I spent much time trying to get this girl well but when it was taking my time away from the many who needed me I planned that

her people should look after her although that necessitated having them in my house also. However it left me time for the studying that I wished to do in order to receive Registration in Guatemala. I spent one month in the Capital studying and took the examinations in July and passed. With this registration I have more liberty to practice my profession outside of a Hospital.

Part of my work has been going with the pastors to the coast country and while they hold services I hold clinic. One clinic was held in Asintal a small village on the coast about 35 miles from home. There were 18 patients that came for help. I do not take them in towns where there are doctors or pharmacists. In a small town called Palestina there were ten.

Many people who have coffee or corn on the coast have to go down to the low land and the first thing we know are desperately ill with malaria. One family that came under my observation not long ago, by the name of Ortega were all down sick. The father, mother and two children. The corn was not sufficiently ripe to eat, they had but one vegetable and besides being sick they were without food and hungry for days. I went nine miles to find them and brought them to my home and cared for them until the four had been cured and fed. I then took them home and brought three others of the same description and gave them food and treatments. The Ortega family had not long been Christians. May this cup of cold water in His name be realized in many others being saved.

One family I learned of too late. After driving miles to find them they were in too bad a condition to be moved so I had to give them what I could for the time being and leave them to the tender mercies of help I procured for them. It was a terrible sight. The mother and babe have now died and the father is in an unconscious state. No food, and dying of malaria.

During the year I have had in my house twelve cases averaging six and a half days each. Three cases averaging four months each I have given 147 injections, made 175 calls and did 81 laboratory examinations.

In August I helped with conferences at Sija and with the Institute in Que-

zaltenango during October. My work has taken me to various villages near by and to the coast.

In the city I am working with a licensed doctor. He personally sees the patients I bring into my home and helps me in any way he can. While I am independent of the American Hospital, yet they never fail to help me when I need supplies. I think that I would call myself visiting nurse or rather rural district nurse. But what ever I am, what comes to my hands to do I want to do it with all my might and for the glory of Jesus Christ whom although not having seen I love.

Respectfully submitted.

Report of Mrs. Burgess

[Note:—

The predominance of the Evangelistic element in our work. 2.—The important literary work being done. 3.—The close coordination between Evangelistic literary and Press work.—Ed.]

Just after Mission Meeting last year, Miss Morrison and I started in on plans and practice for the Christmas program, which is always made to present the message of Jesus as the Savior of all who will believe on Him, as it is our largest audience in the year.

Throughout the year I have worked with the translators who are cooperating in the work of forming the Quiché version of the New Testament. This has occupied four hours daily six days in the week, except for the few weeks of my vacation when I made a hurried trip to Colorado and Kansas to be present at the graduation of two of our daughters. Since Carrie Belle has finished college she returned to Guatemala with me and it is a great comfort to have her at home again after an absence of eight years studying. Considerable progress has been made in the technique of translation and in matching Greek words with their corresponding Quiché equivalents, which is bearing fruit in a more rapid translation and more effective preaching on the part of our Indian workers.

We have translated the Sunday School lessons all year into the Quiché language, have written some helps for each lesson and printed two hundred copies, which have been distributed in twelve Sunday Schools and handed out

personally to Indians who can read.

In the Ciénaga we keep up two weekly preaching services and a small Sunday School for Indians, conducted in their own language, besides continuing our connection with the «Bethel» Church, thus trying to reach the Indians in particular for Christ.

In January I was reelected deaconess of the «Bethel» Church, a position I have held for many years, and entails a great deal of visiting, advising, praying and helping in the homes of the church members. I have a class of young ladies in the central Sunday School, a number of whom have heard the Gospel this year for the first time and are decidedly interested. Some time is given to the Women's Weekly Meeting for Bible Study, and to working up the music for the Sunday preaching services, also to commissions on work carried on by Presbytery.

During the Annual Fair in September, we held preaching services three times daily for four days in the Ciénaga, as thousands of people passed by the door going and coming to the Fair. They stopped and listened in groups of from twenty to sixty, and some few had the courage to enter and take a seat. We have this same opportunity nearly every Sunday morning, for groups of Indians stand in the door and listen to the explanation of the Sunday School lesson, and each one receives a tract. These groups are usually formed of out-of-town Indians who come in for military roll-call, so the group changes constantly, and we can only pray that the seed sown may take root and be prospered by our Heavenly Father who is Lord of the Vineyard.

We have entertained a great many friends, both nationals and foreigners, in our home, which is always a pleasure, and we recognize and appreciate the help of our daughters and efficient servants who make this possible for us.

My work in the Indian League for Evangelization has not been so happy as last year, as during the last four months we have had many difficult problems, but pray God to work them all out for His glory. On the other hand, the work in the Ciénaga Chapel is very animated and encouraging, and we thank God for the Indian lives which are being

made new in Christ Jesus.
Respectfully submitted,

Report of Mr. Burgess

[Note:—

1.—That Dr. Burgess is not dead but back on the job. 2.—That he finds much difficulty in getting torn loose from his Spanish work to devote himself to the Indians. 3.—That in absence of a seminary' the conference method is made use of to train workers and preachers. —Ed.]

The year that has passed since our last Mission meeting has proved a time of varying experiences and opportunities of service and one over which like the previous years we may write an Ebenezer.

Pastoral and evangelistic service has taken a large part of our time. The first half of the year I had charge of the Río Bravo, Retalhuleu and Nuevo San Carlos fields in the Western Presbytery and in addition to fulfilling the pastoral functions aided the first two in special evangelistic efforts and the latter in its entertaining of the Western Presbytery at its Spring Meeting. At the invitation of the Central American Mission I aided in a special evangelistic effort in the remote settlement of Barrillas in the department of Huehuetenango during the latter part of the month of April. When the powers that be declared that I should return to the United States for medical attention, tho I observed a month of silence (more or less) there were opportunities to preach both going and returning thro Mexico and in several of the churches of the Synod of Colorado during my stay in the United States. During the month of August I acted as pastor of the Mission in Colorado Springs carrying the full work involved. Since my return to Guatemala I have been assigned by Presbytery to the Sibia field and numerous calls for preaching service from other churches and congregations have been attended.

Teaching has gone hand in hand with preaching. The last week in July was given to teaching in a Spanish Young Peoples Conference in Colorado and three weeks in our Presbytery's Bible Institute, just closed.

Literary Work has been interwoven

with the above mentioned activities. My usual issue of an Almanak for the evangelical community was again published this year and was well received. The management of the Noticiero Printing Plant and the Librería Evangélica in Quezaltenango have been largely in my hands. In addition to the periodical publication and tracts we have gotten out new editions of *El Corazón del Hombre* (Heart of Man) and *El Himnario de Fe y Alabanza* (a Hymn Book). In these issues as in all our publishing work Mrs. Burgess has been of great help in the reading of proof. In February Presbytery named me chairman of a commission to report on Sex Marriage and the Home and a good deal of the time spent in the United States was used in browsing about libraries and drafting tentative reports which since my return have been studied over by the Commission in plenary sessions. At its August meeting Presbytery named me editor of its monthly publications, *El Noticiero Evangélico* and *Lluvias de Gracia*, and I have been in charge of them since that time.

Construction Work and the raising of money to carry it on have also come in for their share of time, the chapel and manse in Río Bravo the manse in Retalhuleu and considerable advance on our Quezaltenango home and plant for Indian work coming within the period of this report.

Indian Work. Mrs. Burgess will report on her own and our common activities in Indian work which is coming to absorb more and more of our time.

The handicapped by a bad throat for the larger part of the year I was able to carry on after a fashion except for the month of silence above referred to. I am happy to say that this trouble seems to have almost entirely cleared up which encourages me to feel that I may still be able to serve the cause of our Lord for another period.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Harer's Report

[Note:—

1. Our favorite method of initiating new missionaries. 2. The difficulty there is in a new missionary keeping free to study when laborers are so few. 3.—Mr. Harer's modesty—his examination was really above average.—Ed.]

I thank God for the continual consciousness of his abiding presence. This past year, (my first on the mission field), although difficult because of new adjustments, coupled with efforts at language study and a trying job, has passed all too quickly.

Our arrival in Guatemala occurred just two months before last year's Mission Meeting, for that reason we were not asked to give reports. The time was spent getting settled in our new home, accustoming our noses to strange, revolting odors, strengthening ourselves against blushing at sights shocking to the timid, and training our ears to hear and interpret unheard of language sounds.

After Mission Meeting Mrs. Harer and I made a three weeks itinerary into the Western Presbytery in the good company of Mr. and Mrs. Peck. Passing through Panajachel we learned of the fine work being done by the Bundys and Malmstroms, of the Central America Mission, in their Bible Institute. In Quezaltenango it was a joy to visit in the homes and converse intimately with our friends of the other station who are carrying forward the work in the west. The week spent with Mr. Peck visiting the different churches in his field I count as one of the most helpful of the year. This trip was appropriately climaxed by a climb to the top of Tajumulco, the highest peak in Central America.

Language Study: The next four months until April 1st. were spent in intensive language study, from five to six hours each day. "Language Study" for me, is a phrase that calls to mind all the words of counsel I received from nearly all the Board Members in New York, all that the Board Manual says in articles Nos. 32-35, and all that Board Letter N. 52-53 had to say, for I have sinned greatly in their sight. My report on language study is not at all glowing nor am I satisfied in this respect with the year's work, however I refuse under any consideration making alibis. The members of this mission will remember that at the last Mission Meeting I objected to being made director of the "Colegio Industrial" because at the time I could speak only a few words of Spanish. I accepted the promises to help, on the part of

the Mission, in all good faith but it soon became evident to me that they were more fantastic than real. As a natural consequence of having had to accept the whole responsibility of the administration of the "Colegio Industrial," language study has been the most insignificant part of the last half of my first years' work. We have a good teacher for one hour a day for five days a week. However our class periods seldom ever terminate without some sort of urgent interruption. Occasionally the classes have had to be suspended entirely, and I have not found time since last April 1st for any sort of organized study outside of the class period. In all this business of language study there has been one saving consideration. I have found it necessary to speak some sort of Spanish almost continually. This has had both its advantages and disadvantages; it has increased my vocabulary and fluency of expression, but at the same time has served to entrench and make habitual bad forms. As an educational and evangelistic missionary my sincere desire is to be able to teach and preach in fluent and correct Spanish. I must confess, this seems more improbable each day.

Educational Work: On the first of April I began preparing for the opening of school May 15th. For that time I dropped completely any attempt at language study, it meant reorganizing the dairy, giving over all the responsibility to the boys, for Mr. John Haymaker had been doing part of the milking and delivery. Thanks to the seven boys directly responsible, our dairy business continues to grow with a minimum of supervision.

The next big job confronting me was the complete reorganizing of the course of study upon the basis of the mission's recommendation to place more emphasis upon the academic side of the work. This I did securing for these classes Mr. Alberto Melendez, B. S., M. A., from the Texas Institute of Technology.

Besides these two big jobs I spent a good deal of time getting out letters to interested parents, interviewing prospective students, renovating buildings, making minor repairs, building a new school kitchen, etc., all of which in the first two months required a great deal

of detail attention. Of course there is the usual host of duties such as weekly chapel services, teachers' meetings, disciplinary problems, and general farming.

My aim and policy from the beginning has been one of administration and not of details. I have continually sought to train and educate those around me to do their jobs as well as if I did them for them. I am seeing and feeling the results of this policy. Today I find that my presence is becoming less and less imperative. Here I want to pay tribute to don Alberto. He has his faults, to be sure, just as do we all, nevertheless he has been my right hand man, proving himself a real asset, to the college.

Evangelistic Work: A year ago in September I sat in on my first meeting of a National Presbytery. I understood practically nothing and could not in any way enter into the spirit of the sessions. Six months later I attended another meeting of Presbytery. I was surprised to find that I understood most of the discussions and could contribute something to the deliberations. At this meeting I was elected a member of the Executive Committee, Treasurer and chairman of the Property Committee, whose duty it was to draw up plans for some sort of substantial church building that would be adapted to the needs of the people and would not have to be rebuilt every four or five years. For the past six months I have had this work under supervision. One field trip of inspection was necessary. At the last meeting of the Presbytery two weeks ago we presented our plan and findings. Its general principles were approved and accepted. I think we have gone a long way in impressing upon the National brethren the necessity of building churches that shall be both attractive, in keeping with the architecture of the people, and at the same time lasting.

Also at the same sessions my evangelistic responsibilities were greatly increased. Retaining still the three posts mentioned above, I am now to be pastor *ad interim* in the Moran and Amatitlan field, and also on the committee for ministerial culture. My evangelistic and presbyterial work gives me great joy. I am planning, if possible in the coming year, to have more time free from my

school work to dedicate to field work. My activities in this respect, moreover, will necessarily be limited by the severe scarcity of evangelistic funds available for itinerary purposes. Present salary schedules and the demands of the school do not permit of extensive travel by train and walking or mule back would require being away from school--for unreasonably long periods of time.

Home Life: As you all know we have undertaken the responsibility of rearing a very lively boy. Far from being a disagreeable task, as some might be prone to think, it is one of the grandest privileges I know. There is something (an almost unexplainable something) about the freshness and unblemished love of a little child that makes the routine duties and cares seem as nothing. To Mrs. Harer goes all the credit for a well organized and happy home life.

As I appraise the year's work, the joys far outweigh the difficulties and disappointments. One of my particular joys (I suppose, because I have just enough Irish blood in my veins to enjoy a good scrap) has been hard work and knotty problems. Another is the depth of friendship that has developed with most of the boys. It is a priceless joy really to enter into their lives and become an important factor in moulding their futures. There is a wealth of satisfaction in witnessing daily growth toward sturdy Christian manhood. There is unspeakable joy in those who find the Lord Jesus Christ their all sufficient friend.

We apply the pragmatic test and feel that our efforts have been supremely worth while. At the beginning of the year one father brought his boy to us with terrible tales of unmanageableness, of "playing hooky", of running away from home, etc. We were cautioned not to let the boy out of our sight. But the boy has given us no trouble, on the contrary he has responded wonderfully to personal interest and friendship.

I feel that the Lord Jesus has been my strength; in divine wisdom I have been saved many a downfall. And so it is with the consciousness of his quiet confidence and trust that I face my life's work in Guatemala.

Respectfully submitted.

Mrs. Harer's Report

[Note--

1.--The troubles in setting up a home in a foreign land. 2.--The new missionaries getting acquainted with field conditions so that they may understand the needs. 3.--The variety of ways a new missionary can make herself useful--and the temptation to do it.-- Ed.]

At the close of fourteen months' residence in Guatemala, we find ourselves adapted to life in a strange country, thankful to God for His protection, and the opportunity to labor in His harvest field.

On entering Guatemala and establishing a home, I was confronted with the new problem of buying our daily bread in a foreign tongue, without the customary conveniences of chain grocery stores and cellophane-wrapped fresh products. The question of servants was such a complicated one that it was not until April 1st. that a full-time household maid was installed. The success I have had in managing our home with the aid of servants I attribute to our daily morning prayers together.

Until April 1st. when full-time work fell upon us, language study was our first consideration. With the help of two teachers, our mornings were spent in class. Practical experience, too, was not lacking. On the field trip in the Western Presbytery in November, the Western Presbytery Meeting in February, and in everyday association at the Colegio Industrial, we have had much practice in using Spanish. Since we began living at the College our first week in Guatemala, we soon tried to enter into activities about us. To that end I served as hostess to the students on various Friday evenings before I could either begin a conversation or continue it. With the aid of Mr. John Haymaker those evenings were enjoyable.

On the day that school opened in May, when students were registering for their scheduled classes, we added a new member to our household and to the life of this school. Cristóbal Díaz (Lolo) was two and one-half years old when he came home with us, and in the scant six months he has been here, he has won himself the affection of the whole school. Through this child we

have found an easy entrance into the confidence of the boys, and they have been glad to share our home life.

The daily English class has been my greatest opportunity for mutual understanding. I teach by the same methods used in kindergartens of Spanish-speaking children when they must learn English before entering First Grade. The results in both English and friendship have been most rewarding. We use the direct method and speak only English. The boys have borrowed the baby's toys and books to learn more English, and in turn the carpenters and mechanics keep his toys in good repair. Language learning always begins with the ordinary things, and many an illustration comes out of the experiences of the students with which I am familiar, or from our own kitchen door. Perhaps having the class in the garage under the same roof as the kitchen, with a dirt floor and wooden boxes for seats, has its share too in making us become as a little child three years old, who increases his vocabulary at a remarkable daily rate. English is a convenient chance to tell of the things we have seen and done, the pictures we like best, and the things we want most to do, and I am thankful for the opportunity that is mine.

Also I have two piano pupils at present, with six others waiting chances in their busy daily schedules. The general music class comes twice a week, on alternate days with piano lessons. All piano practice, lessons, and one music class a week take place in our living room.

The boys are welcome at the office for recreation at any out-of-class hour. As ball playing must of necessity stop at dark, the boys come into the office an hour before the study hall bell rings at seven-thirty. They occupy themselves by reading the daily newspaper, looking at National Geographics, playing the zither, listening to the victrola, practicing typing, or learning to run an adding machine.

When Mr. Harer leaves for a trip in the field, it is with confidence that all will be well during his absence, and such has been the case.

We have tried hard this year to keep in close communication with the church at home. I feel that one of my par-

ticular jobs as a missionary wife is in corresponding with the faithful ones at home.

We pray God's blessing upon all His great work both at home and abroad. And may we always be found in our appointed places, doing the task He has given us to do.

Respectfully submitted.

Mr. and Mrs. Haymaker's Report

[Note:—

1.—The large work being accomplished by your gifts, readers who have helped install the printing plant. 2.—That three classes in the school curriculum were inadvertently omitted in the report. 3.—That the Guata. News still needs your help.—Ed.]

The Publicity Department reports the Mission Printing Plant still at work and doing business at the old stand despite the depression. The printers at considerable sacrifice have managed to get through on the footing announced last year, and all are yet alive, though poor and getting poorer. They stay with the job for two reasons: first, it is better to be sure of some wages to live on than pretty sure of none at all; second, as all the boys are thorough evangelicals of long standing, even though they get nothing for it, they just work for the good they can do.

My own part of the job has been:—first, editing Guatemala News. This is a serious job. Some few of the missionaries have pretty faithfully kept their contract to keep their own department before our supporters at home, thus cooperating with the Church's publicity department in the Board centers; others have sent in something once or twice; others have done absolutely nothing at all but the paper has to come out on time, so it falls to the editor to fill it up at high pressure at the very last moment----- poor wretch!

The News has suffered much from the depression. We have been compelled to tighten up still more on subscriptions, and by so doing have greatly reduced the usefulness of the paper and its subscriptions, but we have materially increased the the income, which this year has amounted to \$171.45, considerably more than in previous years, and we have lowered the production

expenses.

We have also tightened up the subscription list of *El Mensajero* but with less favorable results in income, though we have saved some in outlay. The tract work has also had to be reduced.

Besides the editorial work, there has been the management of the business side of the plant, reading from two to four proofs of all work, keeping the press out of jail, keeping the records of funds and work, superintending the mailing of publications, and last but not least receiving the kicks and bouquets for what is published, and passing them on when necessary. The output this year has been as follows:—

Class of Work	Jobs	Pages
Evangelistic.....	71.....	408,013
Administrative.....	47.....	57,741
Periodical.....	22.....	316,800
Outside Jobs.....	20.....	27,361
Total	160	809,915

This gives a total of 160 jobs and of 809,915 pages. This is a drop of 543, 310 pages from last year due to reduction in subscriptions to the papers and decreased output of tracts, and also to the fact that owing to the new date of the Mission Meeting we have but eleven months to report. A larger percentage of the tracts this year have been reproductions, and still fewer have been strictly polemical. We are tending toward larger and more studied production, though not abandoning manual literature.

I wish again to acknowledge the increasing efficiency of Don Maclovio Barrios as assistant in Spanish editorial work. I feel that if the missionaries should now at any time be deprived by law of the management of the Spanish publication work, a situation not at all impossible, Don Maclovio would clearly be the best solution of the problem in sight. It might even be a good move to take such a step without waiting to be kicked into it, as that is right in line with the best mission policy, that of developing a self contained native church.

Both as an element of its own normal growth, and as a department of the Industrial College, the Printing Department

has felt forced to develop its activities more in the line of bookbinding, and this year has got on foot a diminutive bindery. This department is a preparation for a class of literature that we are going to need more and more from now on, namely more extensive and studied works for closer students. This will call for books, and this in turn for bookbinding. Having been a bookbinder in former days, I was able to give the instruction without an extra teacher. Fortunately the outfit for simplest and best hand bookbinding is not expensive, so we felt justified in advancing it from our own small pension and risking its return from the earnings of the shop, without calling on the home church at all. By doing the work ourselves and economizing carefully we equipped a comfortable little plant for \$73.80, which debt has already been reduced by the earnings of the bindery to \$36.81. This year we have but three pupils in this department, two of them on trial, one of whom has dropped out. More wanted to enter, but we must limit the number to the size of the plant. In view of the times, we feel quite contented with the results of this department this year.

The Sunday services of the English congregation have again been my responsibility this year. While the congregation has not been large, those who have attended have expressed high appreciation of the privilege of having a service in their own language. We feel that it is worth something to our American and English colonies not to forget their religion entirely when they come to Guatemala, and besides this service still adds some prestige to our church, though this is less needed than formerly. The continuity of my preaching is relieved at times by a visiting missionary and several times by Mr. Harer or by exchange with Dr. Sulzenberger.

— (Continued on page 16).

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Kerns' Report

(Note:—

1. The importance of the health question in this period—direct sun's rays, altitude, malaria, &c.
2. Progress toward self-support in the outfield.
3. The tendencies of the Mission to unify the church by sending fraternal delegates.)

In review the year 1933-34 has been

one full of God's blessings, but considerably broken up by ill-health. Just two days after last year's Annual Meeting I took to my bed with a bout of malaria that lasted seventeen days. Since then, however, I have had no trouble of a physical sort, although suffering somewhat nervously. Mrs. Kerns had to have an operation in April. Then she found she could not adjust herself to the high altitude of Quezaltenango. And so we have been obliged to make our headquarters in the capital for the last few months.

Early in November I was appointed to the post of director of the monthly paper published by the Western Presbytery called "El Noticiero". This work involved not so much writing as correcting the articles sent in from the field and proved of great value in perfecting our Spanish. Just a month ago the work had to be turned over to Dr. Burgess because of our long stay in the capital.

The work has been kept up to the best of our ability in the fields of Coatepeque and Las Palmas, having at last gotten an assistant to come and live down in the terrible climate of the latter field. Coatepeque church shows great progress along the line of self support, having been able to supply almost two thirds of the funds necessary to run its affairs during the last six months. Since the sessions of Presbytery in August I have also taken over the stated supply work of the church in Río Bravo, a smaller field but full of very interesting possibilities. Up to the time of her illness in April, Mrs. Kerns accompanied me through these fields helping considerably with the women's work.

In August Mrs. Kerns' health obliged us to take some three weeks time out down at El Rancho, the Mission Rest Home. We returned to the capital much improved in health and spirits and have been here ever since with the exception of the trips I made to the Coast and up to Quezaltenango to assist with the Bible Institute which was held for our workers in October. Having been named by presbytery to return their visit to us I left in the middle of Institute to attend the sessions of the Central Presbytery held in El Progreso. It was a very valuable experience in

giving me some new insights into the work outside of my special field.

We have given definite time to language study. When in Quezaltenango Mrs. Kerns took formal classes three times a week until June when she discontinued them although she continued her reading and private study. My own work along that line has consisted of reading since the Mission gave me permission to discontinue the work with a teacher as I had passed both the required examinations.

The several unusual health emergencies have rather broken up the year for us and we do not feel that we have contributed very much to the whole except in scattered bits. It is my opinion that I have been doing work that for the major part could have been done by the native pastors. There can be no successful pastoral relation between a missionary living in the highlands and making short visits once a month and people who live on the coast the whole time. It should be well recognized that such efforts are of a temporary character until some more useful work is found.

Respectfully submitted.

Miss Morrison's Report

[—Note:

1.—The combination of religion school work and play. 2.—The prominence given to christian growth in our school program. 3.—The problem we have to solve in getting solid work done when excessive civic ostentation is in such demand.—Ed.]

Nov. 1. 1933 to October 31, 1934.

Another milestone passed! What did I see on this part of the journey? Joys and sorrow, work and play, the fruits of which we leave in the hands of Him who leads us on our way. May He forgive the errors and the hours ill-spent and to Him be the glory for any good done.

Month by month record.

November: The seniors were examined in eight of their subjects and all did very nicely.

December; The school took part in the program on the 20th., the Day of the Normalites.

There were rehearsals for the Christmas program in the church and joy in

that celebration. The C. E. gave one program at which they distributed the clothing they had made for the poor. Much of the sewing had been done in the school. The S. S. gave another program on Christmas Eve and the missionary family had a delightful time in the Burgess home.

January: The Seniors had their two remaining examinations and the Bible classes of the whole school finished their work. In some ways that part of our school work was very difficult last year for we had too many large girls completely indifferent to spiritual things.

February; The grades, three classes of the Normal Department and the commercial classes had their finals, in which most of the pupils did very well. The seniors had their comprehensive examination to obtain their teachers' certificates and their B. A. degree. Thus we saw five more teachers go forth and four of them with the degree. The closing exercises were the last of February and all children went home for the two-month vacation. During the normal examinations, I was asked to help in the national institute in the English examinations.

March: Fifty years ago in March, 1884, two young people united their lives in establishing a happy Christian home. It was very farsighted they were in choosing March, so that when they were ready to celebrate the Golden Wedding, it would come when their second daughter would be in vacation. Anyway it so happened, so I went to the States to be with them and the rest of their children on that happy day. It was a delightful trip, a real rest and a blessed time, ending the latter part of April.

The few days of April left to the vacation on return were spent in directing the cleaning of the building and in correspondence in arranging things for the new school term.

May: Enrollment, employing teachers, receiving the pupils, making out the schedule, organizing classes, celebrating Mother's Day and Arbor Day taking charge of the church music when the Burgesses went on their vacation are the things that filled this month.

June: Saw the classwork in running order and the work of the year well

started. By the middle of the month, efforts were put forth to have the uniforms ready for the first public appearance. Orders soon came to drill the pupils to march. Tho we were the most conservative school yet we lost four days getting ready to march and three days taking part in the celebration of the 30th. My efforts to read proof of hymns proved interesting to those who at certain times passed the office, for the orders had been "to sing each hymn."

July: a famous month for extras. The 4th. with an all day stunt in the Boys' Institute, the 19th. in honor of Barrios once more. As we won the basketball championship last year, we were called upon to represent the city league in a neighboring town's Fair, We went, played, won and returned without an accident. That month started the tournament in town here, so nearly every Saturday afternoon for two months saw us at games. Our second team won all honors in their division and the first team tied for second.

August: When Columbus started out for new routes, he might have changed his plans, had he known how many holidays he would cause our schools to have. On the 3rd. we had to remember his setting forth on such a perilous journey. Then the students in town were caught in the throes of the "Queen Fever" and launched a new program which includes a Queen of the Students. One of our girls was chosen as candidate. The City League of Sport chose another as candidate for their queen. The business men wanted a "Maid of the Fair" and they looked our way. So with three candidates in our midst, I had to work out a schedule so that interviews and such would not interrupt class work. Such electioneering!

This month brings a session of Presbytery with its accompanying meetings for the other members of the congregations. It was this year in a near by town so groups from the school could go and did. A keen interest in the churchwork resulted and several have joined the C. E. as the first step in wanting to have a part in it. We were pleased to have the girl that comes from Sija choose this time to be baptized for thus she was accepted in her home town church.

September: Whether these people so

dislike labor or just have not noticed the red letter on our calendars, I can not say, but they do let Labor Day go unnoticed. Just a lost opportunity!

The boys of the Institute had to have funds to carry on the propaganda for their queen so organized a program in which all schools took part. Hence we rehearsed and carried out our share. Then came the three elections. The girl running for "Maid of the Fair" withdrew so at the last we had only two candidates and fortunately only one was triumphant. We have since then Adela I, Queen of the Students, living with us.

Fair Week comes in September in connection with the Independence Day, so a lengthy program is developed. It began with two essay contests on the 12th and 13th. On the 14th. we had a part in the games, playing a team from a near by town and brought the medal to the school with us. In the patriotic program given on the 15th., we sang and from the City Hall took part in the general parade, the school making a very pleasing sight in their new uniforms and helping in the two floats requested of us. We responded to the orders to present ourselves again on the 17th., but so few schools turned out that the march was not given.

School work was resumed the 20th. and the following Monday the mid-year examinations began. The results were fairly satisfactory and let us know where our weak points are that we may be ready for the finals. I was named representative of the government to witness the examinations in one of the national schools at this time. Thus ended a busy month.

October: During the examinations and the first days of October, we let sports alone, but the peace was short for we were begged, beseeched and practically ordered to take part in each of the festivities given in celebrating the 12th. We entered two girls in the essay contest held the 8th, and won first place, so in the program given on the 11th. we received the 3rd. prize won in September and this one. The next morning we won four medals in the swimming contest. In the afternoon the various schools gave a patriotic program and our number was very well received. There the City authorities distributed the prizes awarded in the

exposition and we got one for the hand-work we displayed during the Fair. The 13th. was given to games and our teams won both games for girls.

The seniors have been left out of these last affairs that they may cram for the finals which begin the 4th. of November.

All along the line we have helped in the C. E. and the S. S., helped a bit in giving to the poor and in the classwork the native workers have had these past three weeks.

Of course it was a huge disappointment to have Miss Weeks get sick, but we are very grateful for increased strength to handle some of her classes. Before August I taught 3 English classes, 1 in Arithmetic and the Bible in the Normal Department. Right now I have four other English classes.

The number of pupils this year is about the same as last tho distributed differently. Our Normal Department is larger and the grades had a few less. The interest in the Bible classes is much better and we see much greater results in many tho our hearts have ached when two of our "steadies" got into mischief that bordered on real trouble. We pray that in the remaining months we can see their fervor renewed.

We have had girls helping in the S. S. and C. E. going to other towns at times both the S. S. and evening services. We are very grateful for the hearty Christian cooperation of the teachers and matron. In so many ways it has been wonderful year and we thank our Lord and Master for the opportunities He has given. May we see how to make the most of each one of them.

Respectfully submitted.

MISCELLANY

Rev. Elliot Speer

Just a couple of hours too late to get it into our former issue came the news of the tragic death of Rev. Elliot Spear, elder son of our veteran Board Secretary, Dr. Robert E. Speer.

Needless to say that it paralyzed us by its suddenness, and by the ruthlessness of the deed. Needless also to say that the most heartfelt sympathy of all

of us goes out to our beloved Secretary and his family in this hour of bereavement. My God sustain and console them!

Such events are hard to explain even when men think they understand. But here we wonder not only why it was God's will, and puzzle over what may be the greater divine objective that can as we believe make even so apparent an evil really an immense good, but we cannot see any even remotely adequate cause for such a dead. It is one of those unfathomable mysteries that will likely have to wait in the archives of God till the day when all things shall be brought to light.

If human sympathy has either worth or power, it should comfort these dear ones whose hearts are heavy, to know that thousands of co-workers and tens of thousands of their converts in all nations of the world when these sad news reached them, instinctively fell on their knees pleading for consolation for the bereaved at the only true source where that unspeakable blessing can be found.

May He who overrules all disaster for his beloved now be the stay and comfort for these who have spent their lives in providing divine consolation for those of all lands who were in the greatest need. *H.*

Calendar Reform

We want to give our vote in favor of calendar reform. The new perpetual world calendar is so much more sensible, would avoid so many difficulties, is just as astronomical as the one we are using, is so perfectly in line with international advancement, and can be adopted with so comparatively little disturbance of existing dates, that there seems no excuse for holding to the old awkward calendar that was all right in its day but.... we've got past that.—*H.*

Industrial College Notes

A few of the boys were growing careless in attendance and punctuality lately, so we put our system of credits and discredits into service and they toned up immediately.

We have several nice Jersey calves to feed, and yet have a fine market for milk at a price considerably above that

of common milk, for people have learned that what we sell is milk not water. So Mr. Harer arranged with a neighbor who can only get the low price even for pure milk to sell us enough milk to feed the calves who thrive on it quite well and we sell all ours. This results in quite a saving, so that the calves food costs us nothing, and soon will cost less than nothing. Good scheme!

The social side of the college boys' education is being well looked after. In the Miscellany and Orientation class they have been given a short course in the usages of polite society, especially at the table, and they are invited all together or in groups to take dinner with the Principal and his wife or with their professor and his wife, where they spend the evening in a home atmosphere and have a rollicking good time with no vices and with a chance to put in practice some of the things they have learned in class. Teaching them how to be gentlemen and then treating them as such has a wonderful influence on their conduct.

In Memoriam

On the morning of Nov. 10th there passed to his heavenly reward our oldest native ordained minister, Román Hernández, who was not only the oldest in years, but had been longest in the faith. He accepted the Gospel as a young man in Salvador. In due time he became a colporteur for the Bible Society, and as such bore the brunt of pioneer work and the severest opposition. Many a jail has he seen the inside of for the crime of distributing the Bible and preaching its contents, but never did his faith weaken or his courage fail for a moment. He raised two orphan nephews and made colporters of both and both were later ordained by our presbytery, one is already deceased. He was noted for his sound common sense and his ability to settle church quarrels. He has been superannuated and an invalid for a long time. He was a good man.—*H.*

«GUATEMALA NEWS»

ED. M. HAYMAKER, D. D., EDITOR
Apartado 378, Guatemala,
Guatemala, Central America.

(Continued from page 11).

An interesting and apparently useful line of my work is the elderly men's class in Sunday School, varying in numbers from 30 to 58. The leader analyzes the lesson and lays down several interesting civic domestic social and practical applications of it and starts discussion on the subject. They are quite ready to take part, and sometimes it requires alertness to keep in the lead, but all seem interested in the discussion, and it is certain that several come who would not be attracted by a mere textual study of the lesson.

Mrs. Haymaker has been very active in the work as usual. She not only helps us get along on a single man's pension, and that's no joke here, but lends direct assistance in the work whenever possible. She has a good influence on the college boys with most of whom she is on good advisory terms, and has them in her home for a social evening occasionally. She is boarding two of the young natives in our home at cost for their good. She has an interesting class in Sunday School including many college boys. Besides all this, she has a large circle of very close friends among the native people, many of them her former pupils during her 11 years service, as well as the parents whose children she formerly taught as professor and principal of the Girls School, and the friends she has acquired thru them. Of late she is developing quite a circle of friendship among the street arabs down near where we live, that promises soon to be a valuable feeder for the Sunday School. She has also been of great assistance in looking after the social side of our unity life, leaving me free to write the articles of the News the missionaries ought to write and don't. This last should surely generate gratitude in the hearts of those whose duty she has thus vicariously fulfilled.

Respectfully submitted.

OUR WHO'S WHO

Charles A. Ainslie, M. D. (1922). Medical work Hospital. Guatemala, Ambulance out-work. Mission Chairman. Box 174. C. A. A.

Mrs. Ruth McConnell Ainslie R. N., (1922). Hospital, trained nurse. Guatemala, Box 174. R. A.

Miss Ethel Baker (1924). Educational work. Principal Norton School. Guatemala, Box 174. E. B.

Miss Lucy Bestwick R. N. (1929). Nursing and sanitation. Ostuncalco, Quezaltenango. L. B.

Mrs. Dora McLaughlin Burgess (1913.) Indian and School work. Quezaltenango, Box 5., D. M. B.

Rev. Paul Burgess Ph. D. (1913). "Evangelistic and Literary Work, Quiché Indian work." Quezaltenango, Box 5. P. B.

Rev. T. N. Harer (1933). Language and prep. study. Principal Boys' Industrial College. Guatemala, Box, 378. T. N. H.

Mrs. Marie Pace Harer. Language and prep. study. Boys' Industrial College. Guatemala, Box 378. M. H.

Rev. E. M. Haymaker, D. D., (1884). Educational work, Editor of Guatemala News and El Mensajero, Mgr. Press Plant., (H. R). Guatemala, Box 378. H.

Mrs. Ella Williams Haymaker (1917). Boys' Industrial College and pastoral work (Unappointed). Guatemala, Box 378. E. M. H.

Rev. Lucion Harper Kerns, (1932). Evangelistic. Quezaltenango, Box 5. K.

Mrs. Gertrude A. Seely Kerns (1932). Quezaltenango. Evangelistic. Box 5. G. K.

Mrs. Gertrude Miller. (1926) Asst. in Mam Indian Work. (Unappointed). San Pedro, Dpto. San Marcos. G. M.

Miss Eleanor Morrison (1915). Principal Girl's Grade and Normal School, La Patria. Quezaltenango, Box 5. E. M.

Mrs. Besse M. Nurminger R. N. (1922). Hospital, Nurse's Training School. Ambulance work. Guatemala. Box 174. B. M. N.

Mrs. Dorothy Miller Peck (1922). Mam Indian work, San Pedro, Dpt. S. Marcos. P.

Rev. Horace Dudley Peck, M. A. (1922). Mam Indian work, San Pedro, Dpt. S. Marcos. P.

Mrs. Jessie Kennedy Sullenberger, (1911). Evangelistic and Teaching, Guatemala, Box 250. J. K. S.

Rev. Linn P. Sullenberger D. D. (1911). Evangelistic work, Pastor Guatemala Church. Out-field work, Mission Treas. Box 250. L. P. S.

Miss Mary F. Turner (Mexico 1898-Guatemala 1931). Educational and Evangelistic work. Ostuncalco, Quez. M. F. T.

Miss Elsie Weeks (1933). Educational. Quezaltenango, Box 5. E. W.

—N. B. Articles in Guatemala News appear over the indicated initials of their authors.

Fifty cents (or more) sent to E. M. Haymaker Warrensburg Mo., or by international postal order to Apart. 378, Guatemala, C. A., will put you on the list of Guatemala News.

Katherine & Hancock

502

Munroe

Riversley Rd.

Concester.

23 Nov: 34.

Dear Dr. & W^o Speer.

I have been wanting to write and tell you how our sympathy and love go out to you in your sad loss.

Always your lives have been a great inspiration to us, and often we thank God for your faith and labour of love with countless others.

I heard the Messiah in the Cathedral here last September. Though we sat in the Transept & could see



Howden
Arkiv

29 September - 1934

Dear Dr. Speer, -

Your son's
tragic death brought sorrow
into this little corner of the
world - especially because of
our affection for you. Perhaps
because of rifts and schisms,
we are more sure of our loyalties
-- so our hearts just naturally
turn to you in your deep
distress - you and Mr. Speer.
There is nothing else to say
to one like you. In your
sorrows and joys alike. I am

just one of that great, loving
host - your spiritual family -
and so it will always be right
through eternity.

Only God can comfort and
carry you through His trial,
but we are surrounding you -
just a cloud of impressors.

Yours faithfully
Mabel Webb Jones

NOV 14 1934

American Presbyterian Mission

14 Kutcherry Road

Katra, Allahabad, India

Oct. 19, 1934.

Dear Mr. Speer:

This is to assure you that Alma and I are joining these days with your host of world-encircling friends in deep sympathy with you and your over the loss of your son Elliott. We were shocked to read it in the letter from my mother last week, the first letter from the U.S.A. She had only just seen the account of the shooting in the papers, and knew no details. We shall probably get them this week.

Thank God, there is no need to tell you where to find comfort, for you know Him, and have been asking Him known all your life; and we know that you and Mrs. Speer and the rest of the family have been feeling the under-girding arms of His love during these trying days; knowing that your beloved is with our Father in the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ, and that you will see him one day. At such times there is no faith like the Christian faith, and no anticipation like that Christian's anticipation.

Assuring you of our prayers and deepest sympathy,

Affectionately yours,

Ernest P. J.

Alma J. Janvies

Wm C Kerr

Wm

Leak, Chosen,
Oct. 30, 1934.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Speer;

Mr. Kerr and I would join with you host of friends all over the world, to offer our heartfelt sympathy at this time of deep grief. We are greatly shocked by the act which has taken your son away from you.

All we can do is to pray that God will comfort you and reveal his will to you, and then we can be sure will be answered. Your brave faith at this time will strengthen others who are struggling along the path of suffering. How close the other world seems to be when it is such a short step from the one to the other. The eternal kingdom will be all the more real to you now.

In deep sympathy

William C. Kerr.

617
MRS. CHARLES LEWIS
PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
PAOTING, HOPEI, CHINA

Sept. 19th, 1944

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Spurr:

We were shocked when we saw in last night's paper the news of the going of your son Elliot - we're sending you words of our hearty sympathy by wire today.

I know that the Holy Spirit wonderfully comforts & sustains when our dear ones leave and that nothing can happen to those or trust to Him which He does not allow. So it must be in some way all in His will.

It was given the words "one step at a time" when Dr. Lewis was stricken and it helped me much. God certainly gives grace hour by hour for the burdens, "He carries our griefs."

With sincere love and sympathy

Cora C. Lewis

4.2.2.



Robert College, Istanbul, Turkey

Sept. 24, 1934.

My dear Mrs. Speer,

We here in Turkey have seen the newspaper accounts of your son's murder and have been inexpressibly shocked. I know how futile words of sympathy are at such a time but I do want you to know that this one of your friends, in common

with hundreds of others all over the world, is thinking of you and Dr. Speer, the bereaved wife and children, and of Margaret in far off China with the deepest sympathy.

It seems incredible that such a thing could occur. The loss to the Northfield schools and to the world is one that can ill be borne and the blow to the family must be crushing.

Still, we know that our Father is over all and that he loves us. You will all

be given strength to carry on.

I think often of our happy association in the Genesing College Committee. It was a pleasure to have a wee glimpse of Dr. Scott's son and daughter this summer.

Yours with affectionate sympathy,
Eula B. Kee.

auto.

Gani acls. To

Am. Soc. of Arch.

Archives.

Dear Mrs. Speer,

This brings you sincerest sympathy in your time of sorrow and trouble.

It's too bad that grief at the loss of your son need be loaded by police investigations and publicity. I do hope that that at least may be quickly over.

With best wishes to yourself and Dr. Speer,

affectionately

Libby.

Corinth, Greece

October 11, 1937.

502

A. K. Replew

No 6 Kung Heien Hutung

East City Peiping

Sept. 18-1934

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer:

In our Peiping paper today I was greatly grieved to learn of your own deep personal bereavement in the passing of your son Elliott.

I hasten to write to assure you how deeply Mr. Speer and I sympathize with you in your loss, as well as with Elliott's immediate family.

I am sure you must be greatly comforted by the large fellowship of friends whose prayers & sympathy are poured out in your behalf.

Mr. Hermon will miss him, I'm sure. But the impress of his personality will abide in the lives of those many students who were privileged to come under his influence.

I've recently read two stimulating books
by Weatherford. "Discipleship" & "Who Left and
Why". In both he refers to the "ad interim
Will of God" a suggestion I have found
most illuminating and comforting too.

Again assuring you of our deep sympathy
& our prayers, I remain

Most cordially yours

A. C. Cople

K

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

November 10, 1934.

MEMORANDUM

FROM Cleland B. McAfee

TO Robert E. Speer

(Action No.4, Executive Committee, Japan Mission,-Rev. Willis Lamott, Oct.19,1934)

"Condolences to Dr. and Mrs. Speer: The members of the Mission having heard of the tragic death of Mr. Elliott Speer, principal of the Mt. Herman School, on September 16, it was voted to authorize the chairman of the Executive Committee to convey to Mr. Speer's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer, the deep sympathy of the Mission."

Your word, Robert, out of your own like
experience, and the sympathy of you & your
good wife, gives us new courage.

230 Park Avenue
New York

Speer

WJ

TO OUR FRIENDS

NOV 15 1934

We relied upon your help when Elizabeth was
Also suddenly taken from us in August, and now we are
counting on you again to help us carry our burden.
Jean and Donald join us in thanking you from the
depths of our hearts for the recent expression of
your sympathy.

In this double cloud which has so suddenly
enveloped us we are glimpsing a double rainbow -

I know not what the future hath,
Of marvel or surprise,
I only know that life and death
His goodness underlies.

We are freshly assured of the sustaining power of the
Father of us all.

This tragic event is yet another demonstration
of the inadequacy of the present social order to curb
the forces which are at enmity with the law of love.
With Laurence, social justice had become a passion.
We pray for wisdom to learn the lessons God would
teach us for our own good and the good of all men.

We expect to remain in New York City until Novem-
ber 19 when we plan to start on a leisurely journey to
California where our address until about December 20
will be in care of Dr. David W. Lyon, Jr., 4737
Marlborough Road, San Diego, Calif. Afterwards we can
be reached for a few weeks until our plans mature in
care of the House of Rest, 170 South Marengo Avenue,
Pasadena, Calif.

Grace and Willard Lyon.

November, 1934.

Willard Lyles

En route westward, in Illinois,

November 28, 1934

Dear Robert:

It has done both Grace & me a lot of good to get your letters. We know how intimately you understand our need. Lawrence's sudden call has been to us a new challenge to live God-centered lives. Without the assurance that God, though limited by the measure of self-determination which He has voluntarily given to man for man's ultimate good, is yet in full control of the final outcome, and is working towards the fulfillment of a glorious Plan, we should feel lost in the maze of perplexities, which otherwise might mock and baffle us. But we have the assurance! God's love seems greater and kinder than ever, and we are at peace, though more determined now to fight the fight of faith for a more abundant salvation for men about us and for ourselves, both here and hereafter.

Yours affectionately

Willard

R. B. Love

W70

STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT
UNITED CHURCH OF NORTHERN INDIA.

1934

REV. A. L. WILEY, PH. D. CHAIRMAN
RATNAGIRI, BOMBAY PRESIDENCY
REV. R. B. LOVE, SEC. AND TREASURER.
KASUR, PUNJAB.

Kasur, Punjab, India
October, 14th, '34.

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

Mrs. Speer will not remember me and I remember her only slightly. The only time that we met was in 1912. I was in your home for an afternoon tea on the occasion of the out-going missionaries. But I feel that I ought to know her for I know the Dr. so well.

It was a week ago that we learned of the awful tragedy that has come into your lives. Dr. Velte saw the news in the British Weekly. There was the most meager information. But yesterday I was in Lahore when the home mail arrived. I was in the home of Dr. E.D. Lucas. I heard Mrs. Lucas read the letter written by her son who had just that day arrived in the school of which your son was the Head Master or Principle. The letter gave a very full account of the tragedy.

Jesus taught us to pray, Thy will be done. When such an incident comes into our lives we call it a tragedy, we are shocked and say, why does God allow such a thing. But I am learning, oh so slowly, that this life is a school in which we are preparing for a larger life. Some of our dear ones are entering into that larger never ending live ahead of us.

Allow me to put in this letter part of the 23rd Psalm as it appeals to me at such a time;

The Lord is my shepherd,
Though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will not fear,
For thou art with me;
Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the presence
of the Lord forever.

My wife is still in the hills with the girls. If she were here I am sure that she would join with me in sending this letter.

Yours most sincerely,

R. B. Love

E. C. Knight

710

E. C. Knight ~~Hijo~~
R. E. Speer
Ingenieros

Reconquista 390,
BUENOS AIRES.

NOV 9

October 18th, 1934.

Dear Mr. Speer:


I happened to meet friend Browning yesterday and heard so sad news about the circumstances of your son's departure this life that I felt I might be permitted to tender my human sympathy with yourself and Mrs. Speer in so great a bereavement, and not less to the widow and children, about whom I am aware from the same source.

Such happenings I deem entirely inscrutable, and know no philosophy or frame of thought that meets them; we can only be humble and bow our heads.

Reiterating dear Mr. Speer this profoundly felt sympathy,

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

Ernest C. Knight


Revd. Robert E. Speer Ph.D., D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
NEW YORK.

L. C. Lake

120

November 19, 1934, Sapporo, Japan.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Presbyterian Board,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My Dear Dr. Speer:

Please pardon the late coming of this letter but when I explain you will understand. Weeks ago we were all shocked at the death of your son. Right away I intended to write and let you all know that we were thinking and praying for you. It was a hard trial indeed. If he had been sick or God had called him home some other way we might understand but to go as he did is beyond human understanding. I was thinking of another man in my Maru Yama congregation. He is an Episcopalean but comes to our small church every Sunday night. He is a man of about fifty five I judge. He used to work with a mining company, retired on a pension. He has one sick son with tuberculosis who will not recover. He has had another daughter in the hospital for over one year. Then in addition about three months ago his wife was sick. At our evening meeting he said that during all the trials and joys that had come to him he would have fallen over if he had not God to lean on and help him. That is the way with you now. If you did not have God to lean on and strengthen you it would be more than you could bear.

Just why my older boy had a bad case of pleunisy or why the doctor the other day could not find an acute case of appendicitis when he had it and later required an emergency operation. One hour more and our youngest son would have been gone. I can almost realize how you felt about your son for they said it was too late for the operation. May God fully help you and Mrs. Speer in this hour of trial and lead you till light comes.

With deepest sympathy from Mrs. Lake and myself, I am,
Yours truly,
L. C. Lake

O. W. Lancaster
Harrison, Maine

570
Nov 16th 1924

My Dear Mr & Mrs Green -

A little while ago
there came to us up here
in remote Maine - the
Linnæus, Harrison - some
hundred fifty miles up
the Grand Canal from
Chickadee - the weather
was at once great warm.
Our best wishes for
you and your wife. Please
allow me to express our
sympathy.

Ever warmly yours
O. W. Lancaster

Prayer is that you be sanctified by
the Holy Spirit & the Word of God.

I was in the city of London, and
had the great pleasure of a little
visit with some splendid people
see - Margaret, she is very kind
by her name - "Tom" is a
man who should be in the
task. It was a very interesting
visit. Mr. Jones is a student
of the "School of the Holy Spirit"
and he is a very good man. I
think the fact that some of the
most of them are of the

Commissioner & Vicar
have felt that Dr. Green
should be in a very
judiciously understood
way. The season of
important business has
been completed
what he will have
1921.

We are glad that our
travels as you have had
at length can take place
in a civilized manner.
The "Sunday" has been
put in the "Sunday" of his
"Sunday" "Sunday" "Sunday"

R. Fred Lunnington

Caixa 122. Campinas. Nov. 12. 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer.
156 Fifth Ave.
New York.

130

Dear Dr. Speer:

Mrs. Lunnington and I would join in most heartfelt sympathy to you and Mrs. Speer in your sorrow. So sudden and cruel a death comes with seemingly double a shock. But we would certainly rejoice with you in your precious memories of a life so willingly consecrated to such blessed service. May it not be that God has some wider and more glorious service for him to do in the glad beyond? But as we rejoice with you in your blessed hope of the glad reunion some day, we cannot but think of the unspeakable awfulness of the thoughts of those about us who have no such hope. So we rejoice in your lives and those so dear to you which are consecrated to telling to others of Him by whom alone men may come to God. May the grace of His constant presence comfort your hearts

Lovingly yours

R. Fred Lunnington.

3 Empress Road,
Lahore
Oct. 11th 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer,
How shocked and grieved
we were by the news about Elliott words
can not express. Datta heard through Wellington
of Bombay who got airmail letters from
England. We only knew that he was shot
and killed in his study. Our hearts
go out to you, Mrs. Speer, and Elliott's wife
and the darling children about whom
Karl Thompson has written so lovingly.
We understand ^{now} more than we could ^{before} a year
ago when Jane was still with us. How
we have suffered this year but God has
never forsaken us. And our hearts go out
to you in deep love and sympathy. Our
Jen wrote so lovingly of Elliott.
He said that next to his mother and
me ^{Mrs. Elliott Speer} had done more for ^{us}
than anyone else. And Karl said that
Elliott was wonderful and that it was
an inspiration to know him. So that
through tears and heart-ache we can
thank God for his life.
I am not going to write more

now but we know that God will be with
you and all the loved ones at this time
and that thousands will remember you
with loving thoughts and prayers.

Very Affectionately and
Sorrowfully Yours
Edmund Lucas

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

A. I. LUDLOW, M. D.

M. U. KOH, M. D.

Y. S. LEE, M. D.

NOV 5 1934

A. I. Ludlow

SEVERANCE UNION MEDICAL COLLEGE

SEOUL, KOREA

WS

Oct. 11, 1934.

Dear Mr. Spar, -

Word has just been received of your great bereavement in the loss of your son, Mr. Elliott Spar.

at such a time as this, words are of little avail in expressing heartfelt sympathy. We do wish you to know that you and your family are being remembered especially in our prayers.

It was my privilege in 1898, on Round Top, to listen to a talk which you gave on "Remember Jesus Christ." Through all the years these three words have been treasured as an inspiration and guide in daily living, in times of joy and in sorrow.

My wife joins in sincere sympathy and prayer that God may give you of His great comfort and strength.

Sincerely yours
A. I. Ludlow

570

89 ROUTE PICHON
SHANGHAI

Nov 25th 1934

My dear Robert:

On Monday last I had a brief visit with Marie at Yuching. She was looking well and has borne the strain of these past weeks in a way to make everyone proud of her.

It is inevitable that there should be a note of sadness in your celebration of Christmas this year. We nevertheless hope

that it may bring a peace
and happiness all its own
as you have been experiencing
afresh and in your own
flesh and blood the fellowship
with Christ in suffering for the
sin of men.

We are thinking of all
of you very especially at
this time, and so are very
many of your friends in
China.

Cornie Wheeler was with us
for a week a short time ago
and I was with her and Rex
in hauling this past week.
The Sailer's and Sherwood &
Brewer Eddy are here now
bringing fresh inspiration
and help. By all accounts
Sherwood's meetings have been
more than usually helpful on
this trip.

Lusac joins me in

sending love and Christmas
greetings to you and Mrs.
Sheer. May your very suf-
fering lead to a deeper
understanding of the mystery
of the incarnation.

Ever most sincerely
Ed Lobvestine.



The Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited,

7, Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

20th December, 1934.

Dr. and Mrs. R.E.Speer,
Board of the Foreign Mission of the
Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A.,
Fifth Avenue,
NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer,

Mrs.Kano and myself
were greatly shocked upon hearing about the
most unfortunate incident which happened to
your beloved son, Eliot at the Northfield
College.

When we first heard
of the tragedy from one of Mrs. Kano's
friends, we could not credit it, but after
confirming the sad news with Constanz, we
were deeply moved.

As we remember so
well the beauty of nature and the religious
atmosphere of Northfield, where we spent a
week one summer, it is impossible to imagine
that the murder of the principal had happen-
ed in such a peaceful place. I wonder how
such an unfortunate incident came to your
family, who for generations have served
solely for the good of the world.

However, there is God's will and wisdom, which is incomprehensible to us poor creatures.

I think there must be something in His will, and Mrs. Kano and I pray God for His Guidance to your family.

Please convey our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Speer and all the family of the deceased.

Sincerely yours,

H. Kano,

PROF. D. ADOLF KELLER D. D.

GENÈVE, le 31st December, 1934.

BUREAU: 2, rue de Montchoisy
Case 22 Eaux-Vives
(Tél. 27.060 bis 17 1/2 Uhr
27.069 ausser Bureauzeit)

WOHNUNG: 16, Cours des Bastions
(Tél. 47.994)

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Speer,
156, Fifth Avenue,
New York.

Dear Friends,

I was simply struck with horror to hear from President Sloane Coffin, who is at present in Geneva on his way to Constantinople, that your Son has been murdered. I really do not know how to express my deepest sympathy with you in your great affliction, but I would just let you feel the pressure of a friendly hand across the ocean. You have often felt, I am sure, the presence of Almighty God in your life, and seen the traces of His love. Here you evidently touch that other invisible presence of the hostile power which is also in this world and is combating against God's life and love for His children. I am deeply convinced, in the chaos of our time, of the presence of demoniac powers in the midst of a world which seems to become more and more godless.

Is there any consolation for such an affliction? I think it is in the faith that the final victory over evil belongs to God, and that nobody, not even a murderer, can tear away His children from His heart.

Yet the mystery and the suffering remain in our hearts in the midst of such a horrible experience. May God help you to give over to Him even such a mystery, which is beyond anybody's understanding. You are beginning the New Year in sadness and sorrow. May God be with you with His helping presence.

Yours very sincerely,

Adolf Keller

کلیسای انجیلی در تبریز

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— —

EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Tabriz Persia

— — — —

731
Date _____ 193

No _____

December 4, 1934
Tabriz, Persia.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Speer
The Board of Foreign Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Speer:

After I came back from a visit to Armenia I heard the sad news of your sorrow of unexpected accident of the death of Mr. Speer, I know how difficult it is to meet this unexpected cases like this, since we heard this my wife and myself we have remembered you before the throne of God in our prayers that God may keep you in full strength and inward power to bear this sorrow in this time, This Christmas season is speaking to us of the incarnate son of God who took the human form and with all the sorrows and death on the cross to show that human life and human death is conquered by him, what a joy when we meet our beloved once ^{more} after this life - the separation of our loved one from us is just for a little while, as we are sure of Him who rose from the dead so we are sure our loved one will be raised by

him who is our Saviour.

This short note is bringing our wishes to you and to Mrs. E. Spur at this time that God may be so near to you and reveal his richest - spiritual blessings in a wonderful way, as we do not understand his will but sure He is more wise than we are, He is more loving and kind than we can imagine.

With our best wishes and warmest sympathy with you.

Sincerely yours

Stephan O. Khoobyar

P.S. I am enclosing a copy of three weeks Tom with Mr. Cochran in Sarab.

John

JH

M. Louise Law

MISS M. LOUISE LAW
AMERICAN MISSION
NABATIEH
LEBANON, SYRIA

501

Nov. 21, 1934.

My dear Dr & Mrs. Speer.

It was my purpose long ago to write letting you how deeply I sympathize with you in your deep sorrow. I have often spoken of you and prayed that God would comfort your hearts.

My excuse for not writing is that I have not been well for over a year & have been away from home

Cately.

I have followed the reports in the papers, inviting with you in spirit if not on paper.

I greatly admired your son, when I saw him in Northfield. He reminded me greatly of you, Dr. Speer especially as he prayed.

May his children be kept in health and safety & grow up to continue the work which their father has been doing and be an honor both to you

and him.

May you both be upheld
continually in your deep
sorrow and comforted
abundantly by the Father
& all comfort.

Very warmly your
friend

M. Louise Lunt.

Private

J. J. Lucas

3 Empress Road

Lahore

October 31st 1934

Mr

My dear - dear Dr Spur.

I know not what to write to you but I must write to relieve my own heart. God would have the right to write to me in my deepest anguish of spirit for you have shown your love to me and mine in so many ways all these years past, and your dear son who ministered to dear, wayward Jimmy with the love and patience and hope of a mother could have written to me and ^{to} his father and mother as could very few, but how have I ever shown my love to you that I can ^{comfort} ~~help~~ you in your sorrows and suffering. In my letter to you of July 26th I told you of my tears of thanksgiving for the way your son had ministered to Jimmy, even as a father or mother, and you wrote - it must have been by return mail - those words of comfort - August 22nd - "You will have heard that Ted is to be at Mount Hermon this coming year and I hope that he and Elliott between them will be able to steady Jimmy".

And so your thoughts and hope for Jimmy, and Elliott's love for him, brought me comfort that between them they would in some way steady Jimmy. I cannot open all my heart to you, or to any,

one on earth, but I could not keep silence
longer, and so this goes to you out of a heart
full of a great love for you and your loved
ones - and, out of the hearts of an old and
at times heart broken missionary.

J. J. Greas.

P.S. No word of Jimmy has come since July
and so we know not where he is, or whether
he is alive:

J. H. Lawrence

Mr

Rev. John H. Lawrence, D.D.
Training School for Christian Teachers
American Presbyterian Mission.

Mainpuri, U.P. Oct. 30-34

Speer

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

NOV 28 1934

Mr. Lawrence and I wish to express our deepest sympathy with you in the tragic death of your son. We can only trust that in some way good may come from this. We know you are finding comfort in the blessed hope we all have and may His peace be with you and your son's family.

My mother left us just a little over a year ago, but we were expecting it as she had been ill for months.

I am glad I can report that Mrs. Lawrence is regaining her strength. Today for the first time she had her school all come to the garden. She cool weather is coming to help her gain further

It has been one of our great privileges to have had you as our Secretary all these 33 years. I still remember your interview with us at the June conference in 1901.

With deepest affection and sympathy.

J. H. Lawrence.

E. A. MAC CORNACK, M.D., F.A.C.S. presents
his compliments to his esteemed friend,
Dr. Robert E. Speer, and wishes to express
his deep sympathy and heartfelt condolences
in the tragic hour of his great loss.

October 10th, 1934

Casilla #416,

Callao, Peru.

~~6000~~

79

NOV 7 1934

Chicago, Ill. Oct 28, 1938.

Rev. R. E. Speer, D.D., ^{ing}
158 Fifth Ave.,
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer;

We heard thro the
Press of the sad bereavement
that has come to you two. May
God's perfect comfort be
yours these days.

I remember a walk I had with
you, Dr. Speer, at Northfield &
how you told me the way in
which you kept in touch
with your son, going on

camping trips with him into
the woods for days at a time.
I have thought of it as an ideal
method for those placed as
we were with our children.
You certainly had good
results from it, producing
such a son. How sorry
his career has been thus
cut short in God's mysterious
providence.

Mrs. Miller & I send you our
deep sympathy.

Yours sincerely,

F. Miller

14 YOUNG ALLEN COURT
SHANGHAI, CHINA

819

OCT 16 1934

Sept. 20th 1934

~~ANS.~~

my dear friends,

We are all so shocked
at the sad, sad news which has
come to us. My heart just goes
out to you both in your great
trouble. My remembrance of Elliot
is as a wee boy, sitting in his high
chair and though the children
so quickly grew up. I have never
forgotten them and have always
followed them in my mind
and heart, never forgetting the
many, many pleasant days
spent in your Englewood home
and your many kindnesses to

to both Annie and me.

I know that Christ Himself will comfort you and sustain you!

But how terribly sad for Elliott's wife - just in the midst of their happy life to be bereft of her loved one so suddenly! There is nothing one can say at such a time. I can only send my love and deep sympathy.

I have never thanked you for your kind letter of Oct. 20th. I appreciated it very much.

At first it seemed very strange not to live by a daily schedule. I find now though it is a comfort not to have to watch the clock.

I am very happily situated in a comfortable apartment - with a C. & W. A. Missionary. And my days are full being this fall. I hope to remain in China while my health is good.

Yours in His name

Marcella D. Norton

500
HWAI YÜAN
AN HWEI

Dear Mrs. Speer -

I have just been helped
by reading of the little girl ducting
the parlor - I am praying that
you are finding not Asia - Africa
& Europe - but Heaven in the place
apart -

You do not need my words of
comfort for we know the Perfect
Comforter is with you - for He has

promises never to leave you & is
even nearer in our times of greatest
need - but we want to send our
love & sympathy to you & Dr. Spear-
& to let you know of our thoughts &
prayers.

Yours sincerely -
Mary Cole Inwood

September 24

Oct. 8th 1934

Teheran

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer, -

Although it may seem almost presumptuous in me to write to you now, when your hearts are so full of sorrow, and when so many other worthier and more intimate friends than I are sending you their love and sympathy, - nevertheless I cannot remain silent. William and I are deeply grieved for you and your close family circle at the news which reached us but yesterday of the tragic death of your son Elliott. Our fervent prayers for your comforting ascend con-

squeezed in a vice between the past
which could not be relived and the future
which held no more joys such as
I had known during those six years.
I called to God in my bitter sorrow
"I cannot look back! I cannot
look forward! Oh, where shall I look?"
And His answer seemed to whisper to
my heart "Look up." Which I did,
and He pulled me through the dark
weeks, and months and years -
a day at a time. I trust His presence
may be with you all thus, too, - I
think of you almost as spiritual

timally through the day. Also for
the dear bereft wife and little
ones, our spirits are weighed down
with sadness, - and we can only
pray, pray that they will be upheld
by Him who knoweth all, and
doeth all things well. I can
sympathize very truly with her,
for my husband was taken
from me after six short years
of beautiful happy life to-
gether, leaving me with three
small children under five years
of age. It was all so strange
and incomprehensible to me,
and I remember so well feeling
as though I were being

parents of ours in Persia, - for you have been so faithful in your interest in us and our work through the years we've been out here! Also at home, on furlough, the intimate touch with you in New York made this link of love firmer than ever.

This strange and inexplicable thing which has befallen is just one of those awful mysteries we dare not try to find a reason for, but just throw the cruelty and strangeness of it all, upon our Savior's love and grace. He does lighten the load; He does bear all things for us, and carries us in His bosom. Please do not answer this; you have enough else to do.

Very lovingly - Isabelle H. H. Miller.

Teheran, Oct. 8, 1934.

031

My dear Dr. Speer,

As we were coming out of the chapel at the close of the English service yesterday morning the terrible news of Elliott's death reached us, and ever since our hearts have been bleeding as we have thought of you and Mrs. Speer and Elliott's wife and children. It seems impossible that a life so loving and so joyous should have been cut off so soon and in such a tragic manner. Who that had known Elliott could have been guilty of such a deed? May God forgive him, whoever he was, for surely he did not know what he was doing!

In her letter this week my mother wrote of seeing the awful news in the paper, and then reminded me that when I was ill in the Presbyterian Hospital in 1924 Elliott had brought a choir of young people to sing for me one Sunday afternoon. I can see his radiant smile now as he stood outside my door and led in the singing. And now he has joined the choir invisible and is no doubt cheering our sad and suffering hearts more truly than he ever was able to do before.

And so we grieve not for him, great as is his loss, but for you and his mother and the fatherless children and heart broken wife. In our station prayer meeting Dr. Schuler, reminding us of all you had meant to us in times of troubles, led us in prayer for you. May you who have borne ~~the~~ our burdens through the years and comforted us in all our affliction be comforted and strengthened with the same heavenly comfort with which you have sustained us, and may the prayers which you have offered for us in our hours of agony be abundantly answered in your own soul today! I was in the Board Rooms when the news of Dr. Cook's death arrived, and I well remember your prayer at the noon hour for Mrs. Cook and the children. The faith which you then expressed in God's infinite wisdom and love will sustain you now and will bring to you and yours the peace which passeth all understanding. By the grace of God may your sorrow be turned into joy, and may this tragedy, like the one enacted on Golgotha long ago, bring a blessing to the world!

Kindly convey our deepest sympathy and love to Mrs. Spear and Billy and the girls, and particularly to your daughter in law and her children. Streams of love are pouring out to you all from all parts of the world these days! Ever affectionately and devotedly, William Miller

R. E. Spear

NOV 5 1934

SAMUEL A. MOFFETT

Ans.

Samuel A. Moffett

Korea Mission

of the

Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

PYENGYANG (HEIJO)
KOREA (CHOSŌN)

Oct. 11, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer:

Word has just reached us of the terrible tragedy which has so unexpectedly come into the life of your family.

Our hearts go forth to you all in deepest sympathy with the prayer that the precious truths of God's grace and love may be made very real to you and that the comfort of the Holy Spirit may be yours at this time.

At such a time the fact of God's presence in all of our experiences which we have been holding forth to others as the great message of the gospel must be real to us and must bring to us a comfort which can come from no other source.

A great volume of prayer for you and Mrs. Speer will go up from all over the world.

May the Lord speak his own message of love to you.

Most sincerely

Samuel A. Moffett

ONE SIXTH OF A SQUARE MILE OF MISSIONARY ACTIVITY (120 ACRES)

WOMEN'S HIGHER BIBLE SCHOOL 50 STUDENTS

WOMEN'S STATION BIBLE INSTITUTE 150 STUDENTS

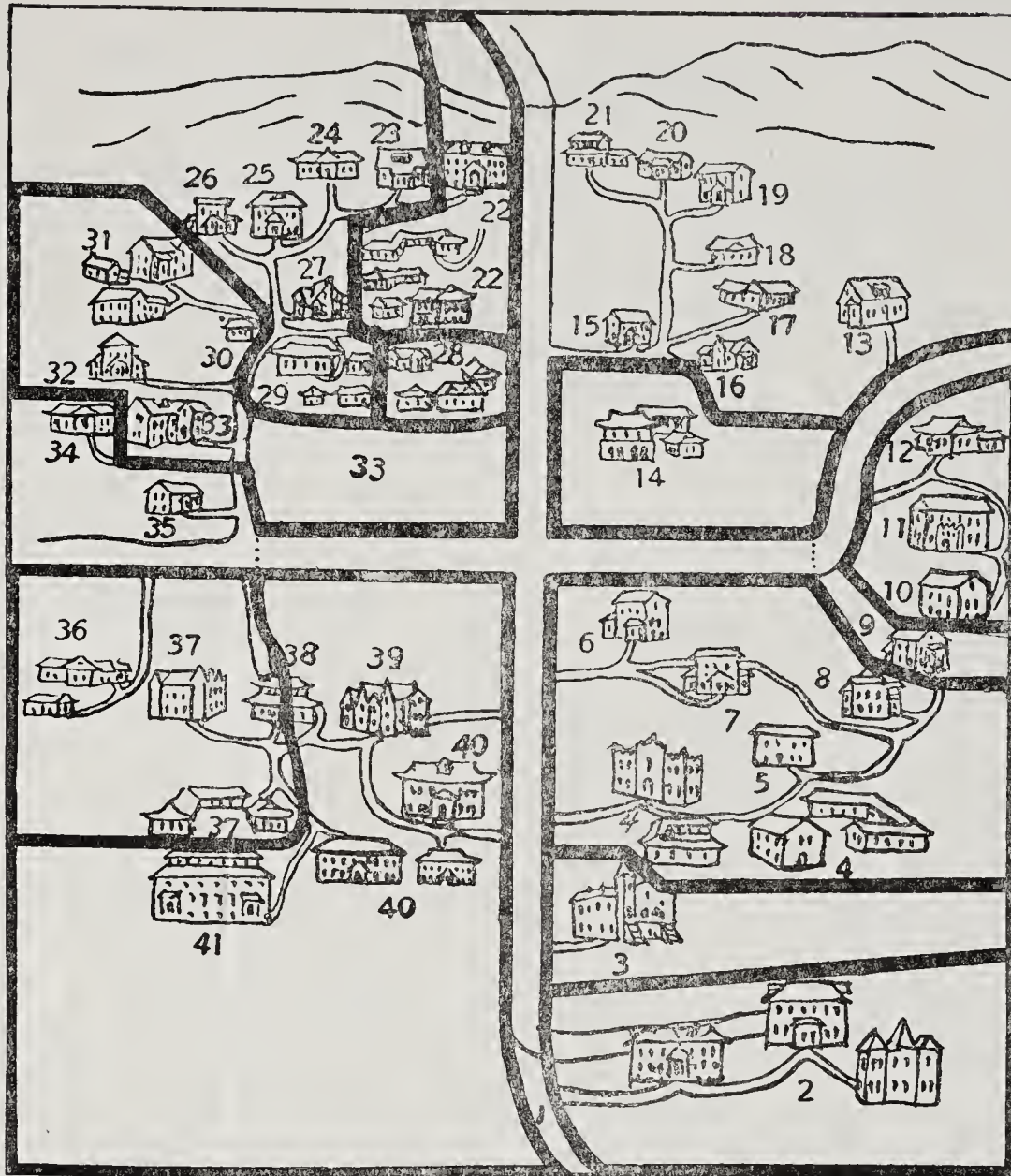
WOMEN'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL 100 STUDENTS

Primary and High School for Missionary Children of all Korea
100 Students

Boys' Academy
570 Students

Industrial Shops

Union Christian Men's College
150 Students



Mens' Bible Institute
180 Students

Girls' Academy
280 Students

Presbyterian Theological Seminary of all Korea
120 Students

Local Church
Congregation 1,500
Prayer Meeting 1,000
Sunday School 2,000

Union Hospital
13,000 Patients
47,680 Treatments
Four Missionary Doctors
Five Korean

Pyongyang Presbyterian Compound

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Entrance to compound | 22. Women's Higher Bible Institute |
| 2. Union Christian Hospital Buildings | 23. Mr. Philip's Home |
| 3. West Gate Church | 24. Mr. Mowry's Home |
| 4. Seminary Administration Building and Dormitories | 25. Lady-Workers' Home |
| 5. Dr. Engel's Home | 26. Dr. Bigger's Home |
| 6. Dr. Clark's Home | 27. Dr. McCune's Home |
| 7. Dr. Robb's Home | 28. Miss Doriss' Home & Lula Wells Institute |
| 8. Dr. Reynold's Home | 29. Dr. Moffett's Home |
| 9. Dr. Parker's Home | 30. Foreign School Teachers' Home |
| 10. Domestic Science Building of Girls' Academy | 31. Foreign School Dormitories & Infirmary |
| 11. Administration Building of Girls' Academy | 32. Mr. Reiner's Home |
| 12. Miss Snook's Home and Girls' Academy Dormitory | 33. Foreign School & Athletic Field |
| 13. Y. M. C. A. Residence | 34. Dr. Baird's Home |
| 14. Men's Bible Institute Buildings | 35. Mr. McMurtrie's Home |
| 15. Mr. Hamilton's Home | 36. Anna Davis Industrial Shops |
| 16. Mr. Lutz's Home | 37. Boys' Academy Building & Dormitory |
| 17. Dr. Swallen's Home | 38. Union Christian College Library |
| 18. Dr. Blair's Home | 39. Union Christian College Science Hall |
| 19. Dr. Robert's Home | 40. Union Christian College Main Building & Dormitory |
| 20. Mr. Hill's Home | 41. U. C. C. Auditorium-Gymnasium |
| 21. Dr. Bernheisel's Home | 42. Mr. Kinsler's Home |

15 City Churches
15,000 Christians

313 Country Churches
in Province
32,789 Christians

697 Sunday Schools
in the Province
45,537 Pupils

59 Primary Schools
3,752 Pupils

6th Oct., 1934.

Dear Dr. Spier.

We have just heard from Dr. Normand the news of the tragic death of your son, and our hearts go out in sympathy to you and Mr. Spier, and to your son's widow. We did not know him, but we know how much he must have meant to you all, and how widely and greatly he was beloved. In these dark days it may be some comfort to you to know that there are those in India who remember you at the Throne of Grace. May God Himself grant to you all richly of His comfort.

My wife joins me in this message of sympathy to you all.

Yours very sincerely,

John M. Kerrie.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.
KIANGSU MISSION NANKING STATION
NANKING. CHINA

Boy

October 1, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Speer:

A number of the members of our Nanking group have already written you personal letters, since we received the news of your great tragedy. Those of us who hardly feel close enough to you and Mrs. Speer to write individually, wish also to express our sense of grief and loss, and our real sympathy with you both as you go through the deep waters. Often when we see great sorrow or hardship come to our friends, we look on and wonder how they can endure it. But we know from our own experience of sorrow and hardship that with the burden there does come strength to bear it, which is given only to those who have the burden.

No details of the tragedy have come to us as yet, but we want you to know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers in a very special measure during these days.

Sincerely yours,

Anna E. Moffet
Secretary.

AEM

H. K. Mukerji

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Allahabad

October 18, 1934

My dear Dr. Speer,

The recent ~~and~~ tragic occurrence takes me back to Mount Hermon where, in 1931, I called on your son, Elliot, with Edmund Lucas. It was such a pleasure to meet him. Little did I expect that three years later he would depart from us so suddenly. You and Mrs. Speer, and your children will miss the dear departed one but you do not need to be comforted in the ordinary sense. You know where he is now - beyond the veil, yes, but safe in the Almighty arms. To the same everlasting and almighty arms I commit you all. God only can give the comfort which one requires at such a time. The General Board has sent you a cable conveying our loving sympathy to all the bereaved ones. The sad news reached us through Mr Dunbar who had received it from Lady ~~Ellis~~ Ewing. The last foreign mail brought to Graham Parker a clipping from some American paper which confirmed it. We then decided to send you our loving sympathy. Kindly ~~con-~~

~~vey it also to your daughter-in-~~

MRS. J. H. ORBISON
HOSHIARPUR
PUNJAB
INDIA

Mo

Oct. 18/24

Dear Cousin Robert,

Words fail to express my feelings in this terrible blow that has fallen on you and your family, to have your splendid son taken from you so suddenly and so cruelly. It seems like a personal grief to me. My own loss is so fresh that my heart just goes out to you in deep, deep sympathy.

May God sustain you and comfort you all in this fiery trial.

Yours affectionately
Lillie C. Orbison

Mary & Henry Midkiff

57

DEC 7 1934

Lages, Santa Catharina, Brazil,
Nov. 6, 1934.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer;

Just a note conveying our deep sympathy with you and your family in this time of sorrow. Our own burdens, however, are more easily carried as we read of your faith, strength, and courage. The darkness has accentuated the light of your identification with Divine Will. A favorite text of comfort with us is "All things work together for good to them that love God."

In understanding sympathy, we are

Your friends,

Mary & Henry Midkiff.

J. A. McLean

NOV 7 1934

Oct. 17th, 1934.

79

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I had delayed my answer to your very welcome letter of August 16th. until I should have finished a careful reading of your latest (and I think your very best) contribution to the literature of Christian thought, when David's message concerning the family sorrow reached me and took me, in spirit, very close to the circle of stricken hearts.

Even David seemed to regard it with reverent compassion for the anguished ones, inasmuch as he had once chatted familiarly with you and had known of the genuine affection I bore toward you and yours.

One overmastering thought comes to me from out of the whirl of emotions, viz, that there are no tragedies within the will of the Father. You know the Lord Christ too well and have served him too long and devotedly to permit any avalanche of human reactions to obscure the horizon of your trust.

Withal, nothing but superabundant grace could ever counteract the poignancy of this untoward shock and for the outpouring of such enabling grace on you and yours, I shall join in prayer with the multitude of your sympathizing friends and fellow-believers in the efficacy of Divine comfort.

Kindly assure Mrs. Speer and your daughter-in-law of my deep desire to share their anguish and attenuate their inescapable suffering by the only sure means that Jesus Christ has afforded the friends who feel deeply yet are too far removed for intimate contact.

I dare to believe that your heart may be so stayed by Christ's Spirit that you may yet refer, without tears or repining, to the noble son who served his Saviour with rare dedication until the day of his sudden translation, having completed his mission and fulfilled a holy purpose, according to the measure of God's calendar.

My beloved, lifelong comrade in Christ, can you be afflicted and I weep not? To shed a manly tear is just the spontaneous outburst of human nature; to follow on with daily intercession is the impulse of the new nature, enkindled from above.

I cannot banish from my mind the figure of Margaret, so far off that her pangs will be like a tidal wave on a distant shore. We must include her in our tender remembrance and beseech the Father to keep her steadfast and unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. And we must always reassure our souls in the full victory of love over death.

With heartfelt condolence, I am,
Sincerely,

J. A. McLean

John G. Magee
AMERICAN CHURCH MISSION
HSIAKWAN, NANKING,
CHINA.

REV. JOHN G. MAGEE

120

8th November, 1934.

R. E. Speer. Esq.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Speer,

Last week a letter came from my brother telling me the tragic news about Elliott. It was a great shock to me, and I have wanted to write you personally about it, but find myself so busy these days that I am dictating the letter instead. I need not tell you how my heart goes out to you and Mrs. Speer at such a time. I remember him as a young boy in your home, and last saw him in 1921. I know that you will both be receiving help that no human being could give, but at the same time I know the sorrow must be very deep. The longer I live in the world, the more awful does the sin of the world appear. There is so much of hatred and malice that one is made to feel the absolute need of Divine Redemption. My brother writes me that several of those connected with the school have been shot at, and one would think that it must be the work of a madman.

I have recently come back from a several week's trip to Shensi province where I went to accompany Bishop Shen who has been my colleague here since 1917. Shensi was put aside 18 years ago as the missionary district of the Anglican Church in China, and now the Chinese can afford to have their own Bishop there.

While there I stayed in the home of an English Baptist and was impressed by the fine work that they are doing there. Mr. Young, who is nephew of the late Dr. Young of Shensi, told me of a recent conversion which is one of the most remarkable that I have heard since coming to China.

It was of a young man who had belonged to the 'kill or be killed' group of Communists, in Shensi for six years. After taking part for some years in a campaign of murder, inciting peasants to revolt, and in stirring up student's strikes, etc., he went last year as a delegate to the communist party holding a secret meeting in Peking. Upon his return he and another delegate were arrested and the other man was executed. This young man escaped through some confusion of names and after forty days in prison was released. At that time he began to think seriously of the past six years, and realized that though his motives were to help China, ~~that~~ the whole campaign had simply caused more suffering to the people. While in prison he was reading Karl Marx and Confucius which did not help him. He was in despair, and probably would have killed himself if he had not been converted. He attended a Bible School of Mr. Young's, the subject being for that day:- "Jesus as the Savior". It deeply impressed him and he began to read the Bible, attend services and so forth. Some time after this he came to Mr. Young with a joyful

face and said that while praying the night before, at midnight a great light had lit up the room in which he was and he had seen Christ who told him that he must fast and pray for a whole week. Mr. Young did not know what the effect would be if he attempted to do this and so took him over to the Hospital. The doctors there said it would be all right if he kept close watch on him and carried out certain instructions. He took the boy into his own home and prayed with him every day, and at the end of the week the boy told him that it had been the greatest experience of his life, that hereafter he belonged to Christ and would preach the gospel. He immediately began to preach publicly and to denounce the Communists. One day he was to preach in one of the Baptist Chapels and the gate-man noticed some suspicious looking strangers about the door and found that they were armed. These men had undoubtedly come to kill this boy. Two of the foreigners who were there hurried him out and over a back wall, put him in their own car and never stopped until they came to a railway nearly 100 miles away where they sent him off to safety. He is now in a Christian University and hopes after five years to go back to Shensi to preach the Gospel.

I want to add something further by my own hand. May God comfort you and Mrs. Speer with the comfort that only He can give. I know you must be learning anew the meaning of the words, "The fellowship of His sufferings."

With deepest sympathy, I am

Affectionately yours,

John H. Magee.

P.S. I've only told you the outline of the young converts' story. The Baptists had a number of Christians killed by Communists. Two preachers were killed & two others wounded in a tent which they were using for preaching to farmers. The young man did not kill them.

Kenneth P. MacDonald

REV. KENNETH P. MacDONALD
REV. STEPHEN L. SMITH
REV. OTHO P. D. LaPORTE
DR. WILLIAM W. McANLIS, M. D.

CABLE ADDRESS
"INCULCATE LEGASPI"
F. M. CODE

THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
BICOL FIELD

Albay and Camarines
Stations

520

DEC 10 1934

Legaspi, Albay, P. I.

November 8, 1934.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:-

We know how stunned and torn your hearts must be at this time but we know, too, of your faith which must be lifting you out of the sorrows and shadows of this life into the very presence of Him whom we love and serve. In His presence there is joy evermore. God has ordained that these changes should shock our whole being but, down in our hearts, we know that the transfer of a loved one/^{from one} department of God's kingdom to another is not a thing to grieve over. The sorrow of the change fills our hearts today but the joy of meeting on the morrow will be all the greater for the separation. I would that there were something I could do or say that would ease the present pain but with God as your comforter there is little that human love and sympathy can add.

Please accept this humble expression of our love and sympathy for yourselves and for the sorrowing daughter-in-law and the other members of the family whom we have not had the privilege of meeting but whom we love for your sakes.

We are remembering you all at the Throne of Grace.

Mrs. MacDonald joins me in the above and in all good wishes for you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth P. MacDonald

Mr & Mrs A. G. McGaw

89 McLeod Rd., Lahore, India.

Nov. 1, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer,

Our hearts have been going out in deep sympathy for you and your family ever since hearing the news of the mysterious tragedy of the assassination of your son. Our words are inadequate to express our feelings of sorrow for you.

One of our greatest comforts at such times is the assurance that "all things work together for good to those who love God". We know that this working together includes all the necessary forces and agencies of both this and the unseen world. Our sufficiency is of God. Our co-operation with you of forty years in the Lord's work, reassures us that you are being sustained under this great blow.

With our deepest love and sympathy,
Sincerely,

Albert Gordon and Ella H. McGaw.

Emma Morris

Ludhiana

15th Nov. 1934-

Dear Dr. Speer:-

In this hour of your deep testing - the hearts of the whole world beat in sympathy with you and thousands will be moved to a deeper trust in God as they see His power to give comfort where the world has no comfort to give -

So I, too, would share in your sorrow and in your praise, in your loss here, and in your gain there - and pray that the Father may continue to answer the "why, oh why?" with ever fresh revelations of His boundless love -

For you and yours my prayer and sympathy go out at every remembrance of you -
Yours in a blessed fellowship
Emma Morris

R. F. Speer

DEC 24 1934

HUNAN MISSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.
SIANGTAN, HUNAN

Nov. 28-1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 5th Ave.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. and Mrs Speer:-

I was present at the China Council Meeting when the news came of the death of your son Elliott, and was a party to the sending of the cable, but I have neglected to write a letter for many reasons. I know that you will have had so many that it will have been a task to read them all, and I am writing now so long after the tragedy, because last night I read the thrilling words of Elliott Speer in the Sabbath School sermon to Mount Hermon last June. You chose that sermon for publication, it was a splendid message to young people. Surely you will find great consolation in the fact that he could have said: "May you above all learn to know the deepest secrets of your world. May you come to know the God of Jesus Christ as the supremely important fact of all life. May you come to know that spirit of God which was in Jesus as the guiding power of your own life and so may you go forth to grow in understanding of and service to our struggling needy world."

He has been transferred to a new world to grow in this understanding and will still be interested, I believe, in this needy world of ours. Mrs. Mitchell joins me in sending to you both and to Mrs. Elliott Speer our heartfelt sympathy and may the God of peace comfort you in these sad days with his holy comfort.

You will have long ago forgotten, but we can never forget when our little Earnest died in Chenchow more than twenty years ago the wonderful message of condolence you then sent us.

We can only say the Lord of Life and Glory has seen fit to take your son away to himself, where he will still be full of service and activity.

"It is a characteristic thought that faith exalts us above the limitations of our life in time, enabling us to view temporal events under the form of eternity, and if we rise to this conception we shall view the troubles of life with calmness."

We know you have found grace and comfort and calmness in that source of all good, fellowship with the risen Christ.

With best regards and wishes.

Yours very sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. T.W. Mitchell.

T. W. Mitchell

E. B. Speer
Mr. E. B. McDaniel
Sritamarat. Nov. 10 '34

My dear Friend: The news of the slaying of your dear son reached me in today's mail. Though I did not know him yet I have great sympathy for you for as you know I only passed through my Fred's accidental drowning in Aug '32. Your son's passing is the more tragic and "the why" more difficult to understand.

I mourn with you my friend but I rejoice that you know the source of solace and comfort and that you have, though through a mist of tears, found that not one of His blessed promises have failed you. Our prayer has been to Him to bestow upon you and Mrs. Speer and to his dear companions in life His richest grace.

Some day some time we'll understand. I am persuaded that such hurts as these are not wholly healed until the heavenly

home is reached, and we were we meet
our dear ones and hear from their own
lips "perfectly satisfied"

Were I with you I could not say even as
much as I have said but a hand clasp
and a look as we two fathers sorrow
together would tell you that my heart
has sorrow with yours.

May God continue to be your
sure comfort.

Most Sincerely yours
E B M. Daniel.

Fred J. Newton
Dharama, Punjab, India,
Oct. 11th 1934. MB

Dear Mr. Spur,

NOV 7 1934

Ans.

I was in Moza attending a conference on the work of the school there day before yesterday and heard the news that your son Elliot had been found dead in his study at Mt. Vernon. Someone had seen this stated with scarcely any detail in an English paper, which had apparently got it by cablegram. We were all dreadfully sorry to hear it and in addition to the heavy burden you have been carrying during the past two or three years, it would seem a crushing blow. The verse that keeps rising in my mind is "Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth", and I know that yours and Mrs. Spur's hearts are being lifted up to Him.

I am sending this with a note about the work in our district for the publicity department.

Ruth and I join in assuring you and
your family of a big place in our
hearts and prayers.

Affectionately

Dad J. Newton

J S Oxford
PALMORE INSTITUTE
J. S. OXFORD, PRINCIPAL
23 KITANAGASA DORI, 4-CHOME
KOBE, JAPAN

November 1, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.,
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Definite information concerning the assassination of your son, Elliott, has just reached us, and I want to express my sympathy for you and his wife and his little children. Only a few days after the tragedy occurred, there was a cable report in our local papers, giving the name as "Robert Elliott Speer," mentioning the date of your birth and giving a few other facts about your life. Knowing that Elliott was in charge of the school at Mt. Hermon, I took it for granted that it was he and not you, but decided not to write until I had heard something more definite.

While I had never met Elliott, I had kept up with his career more or less since he went to LaFayette as chaplain, and was delighted when I heard that he had gone to Mt. Hermon as Headmaster. In the first place, I was interested in him because he was YOUR son, and in the second, because he was investing his life in the youth of America. I had expected, of course, that he would live many more years to serve, and it is a great disappointment and sorrow that he has been cut off so prematurely and so tragically.

There are a great many things which we cannot understand, but at times like this I get quite a good deal of comfort out of the following lines by D. Hillson, on Faithfulness:

"The very best of us leaves his tale half untold, his message imperfect, but if we have been faithful, then because of us, someone who follows us, with a happier heart and in happier times, shall utter our message better and tell our tale more perfectly."

Any information concerning further developments would be gratefully received.

With sympathy, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. S. Oxford.

P. S. By way of identification perhaps I should say that I am one of the many thousands whom you helped to inspire while in college during the early years of the new century; the "Jim Oxford" who was sent to Santiago, Chile, in April, 1908, by Dr. Stanley White, to teach in the Instituto Ingles. I was at the Instituto when you visited Santiago in 1909. Since September, 1910, I have been at The Palmore Institute, a Southern Methodist school.

J. S. O.

Bessie M. Nurminger
HOSPITAL AMERICANO
EVANGELICO

Bessie v. de Nurminger, R. N. 201

APARTADO 174. CABLE "ASEPTICO"

GUATEMALA, C. A.

DEPARTAMENTOS:

Medicina
Cirujía
Obstetricia
Rayos-X
Diatermia
Pediatria

DEC 10 1934

L20

December 3rd, 1934.

Mr. Robt. Speer,
156 5th Ave.,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Friend and Co-laborer:

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of
the Mission in Guatemala, October 29th to November 2nd 1934:

"Profoundly moved by the paralyzing tragedy that occurred in the family of our beloved Senior board secretary, the mission corporately as we have already done individually, desire to express our very sincere sympathy with these our co-laborers who have been called in the providence of God to walk through the valley of tears. We know that those who have so often expressed sympathy to others whose sorrow are not strangers to the Only true source of consolation; that those who have co-operated in giving God's Word to the world are familiar with its use in their own need; and that those who have studied loved and practiced prayer and helped teach its simplicity and power to the world, will now be able to make efficient use of these glorious helps in their own sorrows darkest hours. We extend to the bereaved the comforting thought that while this precious life was lent to the world, he filled to the full his contribution as son, brother, husband, friend and Child of God; that God makes no mistake and that his removal to another field of activity was the Divine Plan, and that a great host of co-workers in the cause of Missions and a great multitude of Christian converts the world over instinctively rush to a Throne of Grace and Prayer that the tenderness of the heart of God might supply to the bereaved ones a very genuine consolation. We add our prayers to theirs in sympathy and love. Rev. 14:13. "

Sincerely yours,

Bessie M. Nurminger
Corresponding Secretary.

act.

Chefoo University
Tsinan, Sept. 25.



Dear Mrs. Spur

Words just fail me to tell you how grieved I am to hear of Elliott's death, and of how I am loving you and sympathizing with you in this great sorrow. Out here, we have as yet received very few details,

but it sounds as though it was an unusually tragic death! May God bless you and comfort you and be very close to you and to Mr. Spear. My heart goes out to you.

Lovingly, Yours
Cecilia

W

MRS. H. P. PACKARD
AMERICAN HOSPITAL
KERMANSHAH, PERSIA

Oct. 9-1934

My dear Dr. Speer, and Mrs. Speer, —
The Christy Wilsons have
just passed thru Kermanshah, en route
to Tabriz, and we had a delightful
visit with them while their things
were being passed thru Customs. They
told us the first we knew of the
tragic sorrow which has come to
you in the untimely death of your
splendid eldest son. We were shocked
to hear of such a thing, and our hearts
have gone out to you in loving
sympathy across the miles — Words
mean little at such a time, but it
must be helpful to know that your

great host of friends ^{is} are thinking of you and wishing for you the peace and comfort that only the loving Father can give.

So many terrible things are happening in our beloved land these days, and so many of them unnecessary it would seem, that it requires a great deal of faith to believe that "all's right with the world," but we must believe that God is ruling still and that His great plan must prevail.

Here in Persia we have thus far escaped that spirit of gangsterism and lawlessness that ~~are~~ ^{is} so prevalent in the States, in fact the country seems more subdued and quiet than usual since His Majesty Reza Shah has developed such a big army. But the stirrings of Nationalism and the tendency to wish to imitate foreign customs make one wonder when this terrible "New Customs" may spread to this country. I often think that if they got started on kidnapping, we (who would not be at all in the line of such a thing in America, not being wealthy) would be considered good marks out here, because many people think that we have all the wealth of America behind us!

We, as a family, are most grateful for splendid good health all thru the summer, in spite of an unusual amount of sickness in the city. There has been such a lot of Malaria and an epidemic of Typhus fever

added to the usual Typhoid and other things.

The children are growing and developing splendidly and they help to keep life interesting and happy for us.

I trust your little grandchildren are well. I know they must be a great joy to you both.

My husband joins me in loving greetings and keen sympathy for you both - He is so very busy these days that he may not find time to write soon. He didn't get time for lunch today, being called straight from the operating room to a dying child, after which there was station meeting and then another emergency, and he has not come to supper yet at 8:30 P.M.!

Yours Most Sincerely, Jean W. Packard.

WVW

Robert College, Istanbul

Oct. 28, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer:-

Since reading
of the very sad death of
your son, I have thought
many times of the sorrow
that you and his mother
and his wife and children
have been called upon to bear.

I never had the pleasure of
knowing or even seeing him,
but I have known of his
useful life at Northfield,
which seemed most appro-
priate in view of your own

labors in connection with Mr. Moody and the summer conferences at Northfield. As far back as 1890, when you were Traveling Secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, you came to Princeton and addressed our Mission Band, and persuaded me to become a Volunteer. I was rather overcome with the thought of what the step might involve, and you gave me Phil. 1:29 to think over, and I have often found it a help since then. No doubt you all feel, in spite of your deep grief, a sense of triumph that you have been called upon to make this tremendous sacrifice for

the sake of Him whom you
served so efficiently and
devotedly. The agony, I judge,
was brief, and comparatively
few are called upon to be martyrs
for His name. To me it seems
that a life poured out thus
passes away with a halo of
glory. I cannot but think
that the lessons and truths
that your son taught ^{his students} will
be indelibly fixed in their
minds and hearts by the
manner of his death, —
much more, it may be, than
if he had lived to a green old
age.

At all events you all
have the joy of the thought
that he was summoned

when no one expected it, and
that he was ready. That is
after all the essential thing,
to be ready, whenever the
summons comes, and to be
busily employed in useful
service while life is ours.

With warm sympathy,

Very sincerely yours,

Bertram V. D. Cat

715

Syunchun, Korea, Oct 14/34.

"May the God of all comfort
who comforts that we may be able
to comfort through the comfort
by which we ourselves are comforted
by God" supply you abundantly with
all comfort. Us & Mrs. Cyril Ross,

M. B. Palmer

BANGKOK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
1523 PRAMUAN ROAD
BANGKOK, SIAM

119

Oct. 28, 1934

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:-

Mrs Palmer and I were terribly shocked to hear of the great sorrow that has come to you recently. Only people like you know how to bear up under such a blow and may your ~~strength~~ spiritual strength be sufficiently increased at this time for you still to feel that God is love. We sympathize most deeply with you in this great trial.

I never have occasion to hear from you, Dr. Speer, but I remember with joy my experiences under you during my first five years of mission work in Chile. I still cherish the book you gave me, "Remember Jesus Christ".

Conditions here in Siam seem fairly quiet as far as the government is concerned. Rumors are abroad that the King has ~~abdicated~~ abdicated in favour of his nephew Prince Chulachakrabongse who is still at Cambridge and whose mother is a Russian, but I don't believe the report.

Mission affairs seem as usual. What is the old saying that the mills of the gods grind slowly but grind exceedingly fine I trust this is true in Siam. We have many high grade Christians but we can not boast of numbers.

Am sending this today by British airmail and I hope it will reach you in due time.

Mrs. Palmer joins me in affectionate regards and sympathy.

Sincerely yours,

M. B. Palmer

Mr & Mrs J Paul

56

Casilla 1153, Concepción, Chile,
November 7th., 1934.

rc # 1934

Dr. and Mrs. R.E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer;

Please accept our most heartfelt sympathy for you in the time of your bereavement.

Your christian faith and interpretation of such a tragedy gives us strength to face our own trials with more grace.

With all sincerity and prayer, we are,

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. and Mrs. Jwen Paul.

A. B. Patterson

American Presbyterian Mission,
Abong M'Bang, (Nkôl Mvolan),
Cameroun, West Africa.

September 19th. 1934.

730

My dear Dr. Speer.

News has just come through Mrs. Overstreet, of Stewartville, N.J., of the home call of Elliott. We are so very sorry to think of such a lovely life being cut off in his young manhood and in such a rude manner. We extend to you and Mrs. Speer and family as well as Elliott's wife and family our heartfelt love and sympathy.

It is at such times that we are glad that our trust is in the Lord else to whom should we turn for comfort for such an unexplainable happening? Our personal contact with you has been very meagre but we know enough ~~about~~ about you to be assured that, even though your hearts are heavy, you know that the Lord is too good to be unkind and too wise to err.

My dear Brother, may I take advantage of this opportunity to say what I have wanted to say for a long time but have hesitated because of our scant acquaintanceship? The buffetings to which you have been subjected for over a year have been manfully borne and I thank you for the loving way you have dealt with your traducers. I do not know of anyone in the mission who is not wholeheartedly with you but, speaking for myself, you, and the other good members of the Board have my loyalty. There is nothing more to say other than that I wish that our friends would learn to be quiet and not unnecessarily give Machen and his lieutenants so much good advertising.

Mrs. Patterson and Miss. Aikin are 100 miles from here at present and will not return for a fortnight. They are visiting about 30 of our evangelistic points while I stand-by at the station. We miss our Dr. Lehman very much indeed.

Yours very sincerely in Christ,

Alexander B. Patterson

with 4/11/11

PAN'S PLACE,
BOXMOOR,
HERTS.

Sept. 17. 1921

The world slipped away as I
read the tragic news on the
train between Boxmoor & London
last night. It was in
the way of scandal.

What is there to
say except that you
are in my thoughts all
day & in how many
other people's thoughts &
hearts?

The past will
come so vividly to you.
The boy - His hopes
the tending - then the

of fine friendship. Oh my love T
^{sent} me you & D. Speer & all
find I have consolation.

Surely it will
prove to have been accidental
it seemed some how just
a possibility;

When I was in that
Englewood nursing home
those few days, 7 or 8 yrs,
the matron spoke to
me of Elliott Spesser in a
manner that I'd never
be forgotten.

PAN'S PLACE,
BOXMOOR,
HERTS.

SL was speaking of the
1918 epidemic" & it
was to him I turned
for help in the most
difficult & unpleasant
jobs. It was natural
to do so for he was
wonderful."

May the prayers &
love of your many friends
help to ~~the~~ healing of
this great sorrow.

Ever
Dorothy.

(B)

Zurich , 20 October 1934.

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer.

With these few lines I want to express to you my deeply felt sympathy at this time of great sorrow in your family. I was greatly moved when I read of your sons tragic death. How distressing and incomprehensible this must have been for both of you. - May God Himself comfort you and may He show you by and by, that "all things work out for good to those who love Him."

I shall never forget the happy hours and evening prayer I was permitted to have in your lovely home during the Outgoing Missionaries Conference in 1929. Five years have passed since then ; and among them were four happy years of service in Deir-ez-Zor.- Now my missionary career has taken a different turn from what I ever expected, but I know and trust that even this my being withdrawn is only according to God's holy will and purpose. I am having good days of rest at home in my beloved Switzerland and I am beginning to look forward to new service.

With my deepest sympathy and prayer -
ful good wishes for you and the work of the Lord,
I remain,
very sincerely yours,

"Sonneck"
Waedenswil
Ct. Zurich
Switzerland.

Clara E. Peter.

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MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
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OBBEW WYNIB EWYZB.

Translation: Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer.
Sympathize with you deeply in your loss; you have our prayers. Paotingfu, Chihli.

R. E. Speer

SEP 19 1934

Ans. _____

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E. Speer
NOV 2 1934

71

October 22, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer and family.
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

Dear friends:

I have been asked as secretary of this mission to express to you all our sincere sympathy in the tragic death of your son and brother, Dr. Elliott Speer. Our hearts were saddened when we received news of this occurrence and our thoughts went out to you in a prayer for God's strengthening grace for you.

All of my colleagues join me in this expression of sympathy, and also in my assurance that, in the midst of the many unchristian attacks that have been made upon you personally and upon other officers of our Board of Foreign Missions, we have complete faith in you as a Christian leader and as a servant of our Master Jesus Christ.

May God's richest blessing and His comforting presence be with you at this and at all times.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. Phillips

Secretary Venezuela Mission.

624

Mrs. Chas. R. Pittman
American Presbyterian Mission
Tehran, Persia
Via Tiflis and Tabriz
Oct. 6th 1934.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:-

It is with great sorrow that we have heard of the overwhelming grief that has come to you in the tragic death of your son Elliott, and, feeble as words are, we want to tell you that our hearts are aching with you and for you in this great sorrow that God, in His love, has allowed to come to you. It would seem that the "testing" you have been thru the past few years should be quite enough without this, but we know a loving Father has permitted it and He will give the strength to bear it. Edgar A. Guest has a beautiful little poem called "Grief" and if you do not know it, these two verses are comforting.

"I know the hurt is keen today
I know the loss is great.
But what if you should go away,
with no one there to wait?
And, oh, how lonely Heaven would be
If all you loved were here,
and there was none you longed to see
to welcome you, my dear."

Oh, you had a lovely child
and you have lost a son
But soon you shall be reconciled
when life's brief time is done
For Heaven is made of those we love
the beautiful and true,
and God has taken him above
to build a heaven for you."

(Will you please
Convey our sympathies
to all the members of
your family

Very Sincerely yours
Lucille D. Pittman

059

REV. CHAS. R. PITTMAN
AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
Tabriz ZENJAN, PERSIA
VIA TAF LIS AND TABRIZ

Oct. 6, 1934.

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:-

It was a great shock to us all to learn of the sudden and tragic passing away of your son. We heard the sad news first from Br. Hampartsoom who, having heard it from his son in America, spoke of it in the mid-week prayer meeting of our church and then offered a prayer on your behalf. Even then, we hoped that there might be some mistake about it but Dr. Ellis received the same news from his sister.

We want you to know that you all have our deepest sympathy in this great and sudden bereavement and we rejoice to know that you have the comfort and strength which Christ alone can give. We can rest in the faith that "He hath done all things well" and that though we know not now we shall know hereafter.

Br. Hamfartsoom has just passed through a similar experience as his eldest son Barur was killed recently in an automobile accident in America.

We think of what this sad news will mean as it reaches the other members of your family and our deepest sympathy goes out to them all.

With heartfelt sympathy for you all, I remain

Very sincerely yours.

Chas. R. Pittman



Blind Teach Miss Yui
graduate of our Canton School
Sister Anna Miller

Mrs. Park

Charlie Park

2 mo. before he died
May '34

Sister Kardine

Mr. Callender

M. Park

520

Yuan Kiang, Yunnan
Nov 9th 1934

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer:-

A year and a half ago I would not have been able to feel for you in the loss of your son but I have come much nearer to understanding since Dr. Park was taken then two months ago, my youngest, named for his daddy. Dr. Park fell from the mule (the mule died in Aug.) but he came back to me seemingly in quite good health then in a month he was gone. With your son's case you will always be

Wondering who could think
of doing such a cruel hateful
thing. He must have been
one of God's good children
or he would not have been
at the head of that school
so we as parents have a
blessed joy that he is safe
from any more harm. But
his wife, oh how I feel for
her. So many sleepless
nights and so many questions
unanswered. The little children
can never realize what they
have missed in the going
of their father. May all
things work out for your
daughter and her children.

Some one wrote me
this week saying, "I hope you

will go to Kin lung kiang
now but I won't go until
the last of Feb. I think I
don't like the idea of leaving
my two graves here maybe
never to see them again but
that one never knows.

By the first of April I expect
to be in Kin lung kiang.

To bad Becher had
to go on health leave.

The German friends
will look after this work
very well I'm sure. Tomorrow
Mr & Mrs. Dietrich will go to
one village by boat and I
will keep their 14 months
old girl. Germany has
set 7,000 Mex out of their
country for the Vandenberg

Mission since Jan. 34!!
They have enough in Shang
hai bank to go on until
Jan 34. They are very
thankful to the Pres. Board
for doing so beautifully
for this station.

I must go down to
breakfast.

God hath not promised sky ever blue
flower strewn pathways ever, for you
God hath not promised us without sin
joy without sorrow, peace without pain
But He hath promised strength from above
Unfailing sympathy, undying love
Isn't that some thing?

Do tell your daughter in
law I feel with her.

Very truly

Marie Park



"As the mountains are
round about" Rio de Janeiro
"so is the Lord's encompass-
sing round about His
people."

EB

ETHELWYN PORTER
204 CONSOLAÇÃO
SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL

Sabbath
Evening,
Dec. 9th '34

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer -

All around the world hearts must be aching as mine is with you ever since the States mail today brought word of incredible events which touch your lives too deeply for words.

You two, who so richly bless others with cheer, encouragement and comfort, will not fail

to know nor yet to try,
to do all that is right
and brave, we know. It
cannot however, hinder
the thousands of us who
care about you from
hurting with you. We
long to do more than
say that; and surely (tho'
I've seen no other mission-
ary since learning) I can
safely speak for virtually
all of us when I assure
you that we are doing
the other proof of loyalty,
that is praying for you.
Each as he learns will join us

with intense upholding
desire that He Himself
grant consolation and
enable you to get through
this grief closer to the
Lord of all life.

"Gladness be with thee,
Helpers of the world" comes
to memory, somehow, and
I know that He will give
peace. "Absolutely tender,
absolutely true, that is
God our Father" and I
know that you know it too.
God bless you forever.
With my affectionate caring
Ethelwyn Porter.

(I'm just back from a mission journey.

Even yet I dare to extend
the beautiful season's greetings
and especially to Dr. Elliott's
three little girls and to ask that

"That wondrous love and light
That fullness and the glory,
The meaning and its might"

In all the Christmas
Story,

May the Christ reveal to
us all today

and send us, still rejoicing,
on our way" - Home!

"How shall we realize they
walk with us and see?
He smiled. . . . "Abide in me!"

Dr. Robert E. Sheer.

521

1 Chien Yin Hsiang
Nanking, China

Nov. 20, 1934

Dear Robert -

I did not write you

at once when the news came of the great &
sudden grief in Elliott's death. But then
& since my heart has been burdened for
you many many times how you & Mrs.
Sheer bear on my mind - in my
petition. The father heart can imagine
what you feel. The thought has come to
me that - in an unusual degree you have
shared in the work of Christ - & known Him

so deeply & now you come to realize as
 never before perhaps the fellows of Thes'
sufferings. I know you ~~are~~ comforted in Him
 who has strengthened & comforted you so
 often - Mrs. Price & I would join in
 true & heartfelt sympathy - I was go-
 ing to say "in this dark hour. But I know it
 is darkness shot with light - - - what a
 tragic address Calverly - has come upon M. Mrs.
 Wilkes by in the death of their son Lawrence.
 - - - It was a pleasure to see your daughter
 Margaret when her frequently in our home at Putnam.
 Affectionately
 P. Frank Price

027

燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING WEST, CHINA.

Sept. 19, 1934.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer:

Emma & I wish to let you know how very deeply we sympathize with you in Elliott's sudden death.

I had not seen Elliott since College days, but I will remember his unselfishness & good cheer as we worked together in Witherspoon St. Sunday School. And we have kept in occasional touch since then & know what wonderful work he was doing at Mt. Hermon.

Your own courage & faith will carry you on through these difficult days, & God will supply you with all the strength you need. Of that we are sure. We know that your fellowship with Elliott will continue & that his own life & work is now glorified, & being made ever fuller & more useful in God's Kingdom. Yet you will miss his physical presence, & will need ever more of God's companionship. This we pray

for you.

Please also convey to Mrs. Speer
& the children our warmest sympathy.

Yours very cordially

Emma & Richard Ritter

Basel

Mr et Mme Hubert Rieben

express their deepest sympathy and Christian love
to D^r and M^{rs} Robert E. Speer in the great sorrow
through which they have to pass.

ANATOLIA COLLEGE

SALONIKI, GREECE

193

Dear Dr. Speer:-

The terrible news in the Paris paper stuns us with its sudden horror. Immediately my heart goes out to you & Mrs Speer in the personal grief and loss which is yours. And yet I know that the faith which has inspired others will buoy you up & you will be able to look both forward and back with true gratitude for the noble & useful son.

Elliott was one of a very few whom I sought for counsel in regard to my work out here. I loved and admired him as did a host of others and Alice & I are grateful to have known him. The loving Father who knows all will be your strength.

With deepest sympathy,

Ernest W. Riggs

September 20th, 1934

Takya Joshi Daigaku
124 Jaji, Sanchome, Suginami-ku
Takyo, Japan

Erq

Dear Dr and Mrs Speer:

We were all terribly shocked when we received the first word about the tragic death of your son. It seems so inexplicable and we are waiting for further word. There is only the consolation that somehow our Heavenly Father can make even this into a part of His plan and purpose for you and the bereaved family. We want you to know how our hearts go out to you and that we pray to the God of all comforts to comfort you specially at this time.

I write this not only on behalf of Mrs Reischauer and myself but also at the request of our mission.

With deepest sympathy, your friend,

A.K. Reischauer

79

Pyeongyang, Korea.
October 17th 1934.

Dear Mr & Mrs Syer:-

Mrs Roberts and I
are but two of a host of friends
all around the world who are
sympathizing with, and
praying for you, and for your
son's widow and children, at
this time.

The "why" of it all is far beyond
our ken, but the love and wisdom
and power of our heavenly Father
can never be doubted.

We are trusting that you
have found, or will find His comfort
and grace very real and very
great. Sincerely your friends
Stacy L. Roberts.

79

Pyeongyang, Korea.
October 17, 1934.

Dear Mr & Mrs Syer:

Mrs Roberts and I
are but two of a host of friends
all around the world who are
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this time.

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79

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October 17, 1934.

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all around the world who are
sympathizing with, and
praying for you, and for your
son's widow and children, at
this time.

The "why" of it all is far beyond
our ken, but the love and wisdom
and power of our heavenly Father
can never be doubted.

We are trusting that you
have found, or will find His comfort
and grace very real and very
great. Sincerely your friends
Stacy L. Roberts.

136 Renchido, Seoul, Chosen, October 24, 1934

Robert E. Speer, D.D., LL.D.
156 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

You must be assured already by letters from all parts of the world, of how deeply we all sympathize with you and Mrs. Speer in your great bereavement. Mrs. Rhodes and I wish to add our word of sympathy also, although I can say nothing that others have not said nor can I add a word of explanation as to why such terrible things are allowed to happen to those who love and serve the Lord.

In a moment you have been called upon to practice at a time of great sorrow, all that you have believed and preached. I am sure you have found God sufficient for such a time of great need, and we pray that you and Mrs. Speer and your children may be greatly comforted in the midst of such an overwhelming loss.

Our three children are in America—the boys in college and Helen, a teacher in the public schools of Delaware. They are fulfilling all the ideals we have for them and are student volunteers. Our hearts are very lonely at times without them, and we try to hold ourselves submissive in these days of uncertainty, if any of them should be taken by sickness or accident.

Still the mystery remains, as to why those who are rendering such useful service should be cut off, while others to whom life is a burden and who long to be released, remain. My aged Mother in Grove City is still bed-fast and helpless, and her weekly letters for more than forty years have ceased to come. How merciful it would seem if she could have been taken and your son left to continue his life of useful service. The hymn, "Sometime we'll understand" may not be a great hymn, but the thought contained therein is comforting.

How we wish we could have spared you such a great sorrow as you are about to retire, after having done a great work in the Master's service. What a satisfaction it would have been if on retirement, you could have seen your life and work carried on by such a noble son. Well you have other children and you have inspired multitudes to live better lives of service.

May such thoughts as these be of some comfort to you and may you be able to leave the mystery of such a great bereavement in the hands of our Heavenly Father who loves us all, though at times the clouds may seem to hide His face.

The main purpose of this letter is to let you and Mrs. Speer know that we have been thinking of you and praying for you.

Very sincerely yours, *Harry A. Rhodes*

A Y Romig

629

Tenghsien, Shantung, China.
Sept. 28th., 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Ave. New York.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

Unofficial word of the death of your son at Northfield has just reached us and I want to give expression to the sympathy of Mrs. Romig and myself for you and Mrs. Speer especially in view of the tragic way he met his death. The report reaching us ~~is~~ is that he was shot while working at his desk in his study, the motive and the culprit being unknown. Your faith in the goodness of God and the staunch qualities of character based on the Christian Faith are your support and strength during such a trial. However it must be a great shock to have sudden death come upon one in the family circle.

We know what it is to have dear ones leave us for the Heavenly home but we have always been prepared somewhat by the sickness continuing for some period before the last breath was breathed.

While in Tsingtao for two weeks this summer, Mr. Magee of the Episcopal Mission when talking about the Board made the remark that it was through your influence in public address that he and another very honorable member of his Mission were led to become missionaries. It would be interesting and encouraging to know how many missionaries of this generation have been helped by you in their determination to serve the Lord as foreign missionaries.

I have appreciated your letters of encouragement during the past few years. I wish I could say that the other Board Secretaries had been equally helpful. While the work of itinerating becomes somewhat more tiring as the years pass, yet I am holding mostly to that type of work and with it am giving more time than formerly in holding special Evangelistic meetings in the village centers of the Tenghsien and Yih sien fields. We had some most encouraging meetings in a number of centers during the past winter and spring. Just at the present I am also carrying one class daily in Bible in the Women's Bible Institute carrying a little of the extra work Mrs. Romig would have to carry if I were not doing it. The Bean harvest is now in full swing and the people in the villages and many from the city also are wholly absorbed in this interesting task of cutting and threshing the beans. More than twenty years have passed since we came to Tenghsien, 21 yrs the last of Dec. 1934., and five churches have been organized and more than twice that number of Chinese pastors have come from the Tenghsien Evangelistic field and are now engaged in pastoral work.

Dr. Downs gave us a brief visit this summer on a very hot day. After attending the Jubilee celebration of the Korean Mission together we travelled together through North China and on to Yih sien which he desired greatly to visit and it was a great pleasure to be able to accompany him, on this trip.

The pressure of local work have hindered me from attending the meeting of the China Council this year and I am rather grateful that I did not go.

Wishing you all comfort in these days of sorrow I am

Most cordially yours,

H. E. Romig

C. Herbert Rice

ALLAHABAD CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

ALLAHABAD, INDIA

October 25, 1934.

My Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

Your many friends in India have been thinking about you and remembering you in prayer daily during these sad weeks through which you have had to pass. Please accept our deepest sympathy and love. Mary and I remember Eliot as he helped you entertain the out-going missionaries in 1911. We did not know his wife, but so many of our friends have been intimately acquainted with them both and have been shocked, as all of us have been, at the sad tragedy of his death.

Please convey our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Eliot Speer, and believe that you are all much in our thoughts and prayers.

Yours very affectionately,

CHR/RSL

Herbert Rice

R. F. Speer

Victor Rawbo

NOV 21 1934

Christian Hospital, Murkli,
Dist. Bilaspur, C.P. 24.10.34.

Dr. ~~R. F. Speer,~~
156-5th Avenue,
Presbyterian Board,
New York, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Speer,

I have read with great sense of pain and sorrow the tragic news of the death of Elliott. I wish to write and tell you how grieved I am at this loss to me personally and to the work which he had so courageously and efficiently undertaken at Mt. Hermon. Though he did not know me very well, having only met a few times, yet I have always felt a very deep regard for him. No words that I can write can convey the deep and personal loss and the heartfelt sympathy for you and for your family, each one, in this terrible loss. We can pray the Father through His Comforter to do what we cannot do. Elliott's life was always an inspiration. I always felt, "Here is a man outstanding and with the fineness of his face reflecting the truthness and purity of a life upon which was the stamp of Christ."

Yours very sincerely,

Victor Rawbo

Telegraphic Address :
"SCAIBAC," Jamna, Allahabad

A. Ralla Ram
Official Organ :
THE STUDENT OUTLOOK

Bankers :
ALLAHABAD BANK, Ltd., Allahabad City

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(AFFILIATED TO THE WORLD'S STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION)

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Telegrams : "Manhood"
Telephone : 2562
S. DEVANESAN, B.A., B.D.
Tranquebar House, Trichinopoly

1st November 1934

Dr. R. E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U.S.A.

My dear Dr. Speer:

Among your many friends the world over I am one who mourns deeply over the death of your illustrious son. Eversince we have heard of the tragedy it has cast a spell of gloom over us all here who know you and love you. Among the many messages of sympathy that must be reaching you at this time, I want to send one from the fullness of my heart.

I remember years ago when you were visiting us here in Allahabad you told us the story of the son who had a blind father and how he played his very best game after the funeral of his blind father. The story has meant to me a great deal and has opened my eyes to the glories of the unseen world, and the fact that sustains and comforts us here is that the passing on of your son beyond the veil has taken you and Mrs. Speer into the unseen world in a new way. May you both be upheld and cheered by the God of all comfort who one day shall tear all veils away and will bring us face to face with Himself to

P.T.O.

Dr. R. E. Speer.

1st November 1934

2.

rejoice in the company of our loved ones who can never
be plucked out of His hands.

In the certain hope of that blessed reunion,

I am,

Your humble friend in deep sympathy,

Augustine Palladum.

ARR:YSS

Mary A. Ransom Nov. 20 -

1934

Among your many
friends throughout
the world today
there is but one
heart that ~~is~~ that
heart is sad because
of the great sorrow
which has come
into your lives.

All unite in pray-
ing that - His Peace,
which passes all
understanding, may
fill your hearts and
lives - that this experi-
ence may enrich
them.

In the bond of
Christian Sympa-
thy -
Mary A. Ransom



With All Good Wishes
for A Happy Christmas and
A Bright New Year

MS

Dear Dr. Speer,

I want to extend to you and Mrs. Speer my deep sympathy in the tragic and almost unbearable sorrow that has come to you. It was a great shock to hear of the terrible occurrence. May you have the sustaining grace of the eternal Father as you journey on in His service.

Yours sincerely,

D. B. Schneider.

Sendai, Japan,

Oct. 23, '34.

Yonkers. Oct 15

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Spear,

I remind so much from
friendship with Abbott early in his life
that I cannot help adding one more to
all the notes trying to carry love and
sympathy that you have had, now that his
splendid life and work here have culminated.
Only a rare man can rise at his age to a
place of great responsibility, where he can

place the stamp of his character and
firmness and leadership forever on a
great institution like Harvard, and leave
it marching forward with all flags flying.
I am sure that not many men have that
openheartedness combined with singleness of
devotion and great ability that have so
characterized Elliott. There are very few
people with whom it is harder to associate
sadness or sorrow of anything other than
triumph.

Francis has been just as fine as Elliott
would have wished, and is a great inspiration

To all of us. We hear the same of
Holly, of whom we think and talk a
great deal.

I am so glad that Elliott's body
is lying beside that of little Eleanor, in
the place we so often used to visit.

Louise joins me in very deepest
sympathy, and we look forward to your
visit to China when we can express it better
than by letter.

Fareyou,

Pauline

J. Stanley Soltaw
as from Chungju
Korea

114

Dr. R. E. Speer

Oct 21, 1934

156 5th Ave

New York City

Dear Dr. Speer.

I am out in the country illustrating and have just been reading "The Presbyterian" in which mention is made of the tragic loss which you and Mrs. Speer have so recently and unexpectedly suffered in the mispleasable taking of your son's life at Northfield.

In this overwhelming sorrow which has overtaken you the prayers of thousands all over the world are going up on your behalf that the God of all comfort, who has used you so mightily to the blessing of so many during the past years, may reveal Himself to you in a

new and deeper way than ever before opening up an even
richer experience of His sustaining grace and of His intimate
fellowship and understanding of the suffering and sorrow of all His
children.

During my last Jubilee I had the pleasure of meeting your son
and his wife during a ~~but~~ brief visit at Larchmont and shall always be
grateful for it. We shall be especially remembering his wife and children
also in their great bereavement.

Believe me

Yours in deepest sympathy

J. Stanley Bolton

OFFICE
of the
CHURCH OF CHRIST IN JAPAN

#3, Yonchome, Shinmachi,
Akasaka Ku, Tokyo

The Forty-eighth General Synod of the Church of Christ
in Japan was held in Tokyo on the 9th of October, 1934.
A resolution was passed that we extend our deepest sympathy
in the calamity that befell your son to you, who are our
especially beloved friend in the Lord. At the same time,
prayer was made that the Grace of our Heavenly Father
be increasingly bestowed upon your family.

To Dr. Robert E. Speer

W. Saba.

Moderator,
General Synod,
Church of Christ in Japan

千九百三十四年十月九日東京に於て開かれた
る日本基督教會第四十八回大會は我等の教會
と主に於ける特別なる友誼關係にありしる貴
下所令息の所奇禍に對し深甚なる所同情を表
すると同時に貴下の所家庭に天父の祝福のい
やまし加へられんことを祈る

大會の決議に基き茲に謹で吊詞を呈す

日本基督教會大會議長

佐波

直



R. E. スピヤー博士殿

621

American Mission
Teheran, Persia
Oct. 8, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer,

We received yesterday the sad news of the great loss that has come to you and to all of your family, as well as to many others who knew and loved your son, Elliot. We are doubly distressed because of the tragedy and suddenness with which the sorrow came.

I remember very distinctly the only time I saw Elliot. It was in your own home, when he was a baby. And I recall as vividly as if it were but a few days ago the joy with which you spoke of his possible future. He has lived a strong and noble life, though we all would wish it might have been longer. Perhaps that wish is based in part on our ignorance, and God knows it is better thus.

I was much struck recently in reading C.F. Andrews' memorial of Sadhu Sunder Singh in noting that the Sadhu had desired that his own life might not exceed in length that of our Lord's life on earth, and the sorrow with which he passed into his thirty-fourth year because he had lived longer than Christ.

Your letter of August 14th arrived. I shall try to answer it as soon as possible enclosing a report of the Ettehadiyah (Synod or Council) of "The Evangelical Church of Persia" which met in Sultanabad, August 19 - 23. The Persian official report did not reach me till the last week in September, and since then I have not been well. But I shall try to write you fully in the very near future.

With loving sympathy of Mrs. Schuler and myself, and assuring you of our constant prayers,

Faithfully yours,

Harry Schuler

674
Taduz, Persia Oct 8, 1934.

Dear Mrs. & Dr. Speer.

Mrs. Serunian & myself were greatly shocked and grieved in hearing the tragical and unexpected death of your dear son, Rev. E. Speer. We feel it very deeply & know how hard it is to bear it, as we have drunk the same bitter cup a couple months ago when our eldest son (aged 34) Barnet met his death by an auto accident. Our hearts go out to you both in deepest sympathy in this time of great sorrow and bereavement.

We pray that you may receive in healing power abundant measure of His peace and comfort and sweet consolation of Holy Spirit.

Surely the loss is great and irreparable that you have sustained. The wound is too deep to be cured by the earthly remedies. Yet we have sure promises of our Lord Jesus Christ that there is no sorrow and no death in our Heavenly Father's house and when we cross the River Jordan our dear ones will be the first to welcome us. God, then will wipe away our tears & rejoice forever.

With love & deepest sympathy
Sincerely yours
Hambartum Serunian

Wm

Patehpur, U.P., India
October 25, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer

Nothing we can write can adequately express our shock and sorrow and our deep sympathy for you and your family over your son's tragic death. So often during the last two or three years we have felt that you were being called on to bear a great deal of persecution from both sides. We have appreciated your stand and your faith and firmness thru it all have been a lesson and inspiration to us. We pray that the same faith that has carried you thru the trials of the past will lighten the great sorrow of the present.

Sincerely
Betty V. Smith

Thornton Place, Newburgh, Indiana, Nov. 5, 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer: -

We received a ⁷¹⁰letter from our daughter Miss Florence Schaffer enroute to Western India, sailing from New York, November third. She wrote us about her attendance at the fifty second annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Synodical Society held at Williamsport Pa. She mentioned that you and Mrs. Speer were on the programme, and gave such inspiring messages at the Synodical. She enclosed a card [requesting that it should be returned to her] sent out as acknowledgment of the sympathetic messages you had received in regard to the sad tragedy recently came to your son. We read your beautiful testimonial and were profoundly moved by the prayer following your personal tributes and the comforting passages of Scriptures. You and Mrs. Speer have shown wonderful fortitude under this overwhelming sorrow.

Both Dr. Schaffer and I desire to express our deepest sympathy for you and Mrs. Speer and also to assure you of our loving prayers in this time of need.

Florence told us of her call to bid you good bye before sailing. She wrote that you kindly inquired about us. You asked her if I was "Margaret Wilson" the daughter of Dr. Jonathan Wilson and when you were told that I was the same individual, you replied that you remembered Dr. Wilson and his daughter Margaret Wilson.

I too remember well meeting you on the street in St. Louis in 1919 during the General Assembly when John Willie Baer had been elected Moderator. You spoke of your impressions and deep feelings you had while standing at my father's grave during your visit in Laotawm Laos. I have not forgotten that occasion and have these many years have held in highest appreciation and esteem your sweet tribute to my father who was known as the Sweet Singer of Israel in Laos land.

Dr. Schaffer joins me in appreciation of your many years of service for the Foreign Board and its missionaries and in loving sympathy to you and Mrs. Speer in sad bereavement.

I am sincerely yours

Margaret Wilson Schaffer.

Kerman Shah: 20 $\frac{11}{34}$

Peris:

my Dear Dr. Spear.

I have been late
from trouble that I have
with my eye. to show
my Sincer sympathy
About the sad news
of your son death with
such a bad accident
It was indeed great.

Shok. Our hearts go out
to you in this time of
Sorrow. I do know how

hard it is to give up
our loved ones.

but my God in his
infinite wisdom
knows all things for the

best

I can only pray
God keep you in the
shadow of his love
in these sad days.

my wife joins
with me to give her.

Sinciere sympathy
to you and your
wife

Sincerely yours
Stomoh. K. Shaboz

E. B. Speer

1934

Bessie C. Smith

Casilla 116, San Fernando, Chile.

November 29-1934.

Dr. Robert Speer
156 Fifth Avenue. N.Y.

DLB

Dear Dr. Speer:

By the last mail received from New York we received official announcement of the death of your son Elliott. It comes like a lightning stroke from a clear sky when we try to reason about such a thing. But we know that you and your family do not try reasoning at such a time but trust to the good Lord to some time enlighten our deficient knowledge. May the Lord Jesus be very present with you in these trying days.

We remember Elliott as a small boy in September 1903, when we went to your home in New Jersey at the time of the conference for newly appointed missionaries. He went with us out on the walk over the Palisades and threw stones over the cliff. Since that time he came into a wonderful manhood and became a real Christian gentleman, one of God's own men. We are sure that the work he has been able to do in the years, so suddenly brought to a close, will never be forgotten. We wish you to know that our love and sympathy are yours and we pray for God's richest comforting blessing to be yours in your bereavement.

Yours in Christian love,

Jesse Stanton Smith.
Bessie C. Smith.

"STAND STILL, AND SEE"
(A Message of Peace.)

"**I**'M STANDING, Lord.
There is a mist that blinds my sight.
Steep jagged rocks, front, left, and right,
Lower, dim, gigantic, in the night.
Where is the way?"

"I'm standing, Lord.
The black rock hems me in behind.
Above my head a moaning wind
Chills and oppresses heart and mind.
I am afraid!"

"I'm standing, Lord.
The rock is hard beneath my feet.
I nearly slipped, Lord, on the sleet.
So weary, Lord, and where a seat?
Still must I stand?"

He answered me, and on His face
A look ineffable of grace,
Of perfect, understanding love,
Which all my murmuring did remove.

"I'm standing, Lord.
Since Thou hast spoken, Lord, I see
Thou hast beset; these rocks are Thee;
And, since Thy love encloses me,
I stand and sing!"

By ELISABETH ALDEN SCOTT

FROM "THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES"
22 JUNE, 1929.

CHARLES ERNEST SCOTT
AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
TSINAN (EAST SUBURB)
SHANTUNG, NORTH CHINA

Out in the Country

at Bible Class

15/10 Nov '34

Dear Dr and Mrs Speer: -

Mrs Scott has forwarded to me the letter of our Board, re. the tragedy that has come to your family. It seems unthinkable. But we must do *Uberei Kom 8:28*. In this severe testing we join with you many other friends in bearing you before the Throne; that the God of all grace may give you the attitude of trust in His wisdom, power & love, so that He may be able to comfort you *in His everlasting comfort*; that the Holy Spirit may, in guiding presence, seem closer to you than *breathing*; & that Our Lord Jesus Christ may, as never before, seem altogether adorable.

We would not mourn for our dear ones whom Our Father has taken to eternal felicity with Himself, though it is so natural for us humans to feel great loss & deprivation for ourselves.

And we are grateful to Paul that he did not command us not to have sorrow in our personal & family bereavements. That would have been unnatural, inhuman. But we do thank God that Paul told us that we need not sorrow as ^{those} who have no hope, or those who are without God & without hope in the world.

Living amid the unutterable *woe* of heathendom, we know something of its appalling hopelessness in the presence of death. And, thank God, we, through His mercy, are delivered from that

awful, ever-present fear of the heathen mind & heart:
as I know it in the villages, after 28 years of
looking at it with the lid off.

To us, your friends, this dispensation of
Providence comes as a sharp, personal message:
to realize, with a new intensity, that we all are but
pilgrims & strangers upon the earth; that we seek
a City that hath Foundations, even the Heavenly,
Whose Builder & Maker is God; and that there
our real treasures are.

May we prayerfully commend to you a serenity
that has encouraged us in stress & steadied us
in strain; that has comforted us in disappoint-
ment & assuaged our souls in bereavement;
& that has filled us with hope for the future
while giving us serenity for the present - Phil. 6.

Thank God! He originates, He sustains, He
develops our faith & love in Him as His dear
children; & He will perfect us in His own good
time. Yours, in deep sympathy & His love,
in chr. Mrs. Scatt joins.

Your friend in Him
Charles Ernest Scatt

Wells

Wells

Jan 10

Dear Mrs. Speer,

I have just
waked up after
having such a
happy dream
about you. Your
face wore that
same expression
of inner peace
and deep understanding

often and I don't
want to delay longer
pleading my love.

Just of my family
had to leave us without
a moment's warning
and I know well the
inner questioning and
the anxious search
for light that comes with
such an experience.

That is why the expression
on your face in my dreams
brought me such
contentment.

With my love,
Nov. 21st. Anra May Floely.
Lima, Peru.

of the museum
That I remember
so well it had one
day as we watched
the sunset from
the boat on our
way to South America.

During these weeks
since Miss Dobb's
letter came I have
thought about you
and Dr. K'een so

JM

M. Saeed

18. XII. 34.

Tehran

Dear ~~Dr~~ Dr. Speer,

JAN 10 1945

Soon after your kind note
reached me, I heard of the most
crushing news of the sorrow
that has come upon the beloved Mrs
Speer & your own dear self. how
one's heart bleeds for friends in
such a time of deep sorrow, yet
unable to help, the only thing I could do
was to cry to the all-wise Father who
hath allowed the blow, to sustain both
of you and to manifest His grace
to keep your heart & mind in peace,
to show & prove to the outside world,
who will be keenly watching the
way we Christians behave in
trying times, how sweet to pore

the peace of Christ - "my peace"
 as He puts it and how we "do not
 mourn as those who have no
 hope;" My wife & (son) join in
 the expression of heartfelt sym-
 pathy; We speak from experience
 and know sorrow - how we felt it
 when our dear young man of 28
 died in London, as I wrote "we know"
 it flashed through my brain "I have
 seen the affliction of my people, &
 have heard their cry for I know
 their sorrow;" Let us hope "the Comfort
 with which you have been comforted
 of God," after the sugar-cane of your
 heart has been bruised, give out
 more of the sweetness of Christ and
 you will write more sweet things
 "to Comfort others;"

This correspondence is published by my other good
 friend Prof. Cushing of Boston, in his life of Oler.

That dear noble Character, my
 dear friend Sir Wm. Oler, when
 his only son died of wounds in Flanders
 said "Poor Grace (Lady Oler) it hits
 her hard, but we are both going to be
 brave & take up life as tho' Renee were
 with us"; to my letter of consolation, being
 astonished, for I expected he would
 give up every other thought, he wrote
 "said let us take up ^{again} the question
 of rebuilding Aricima's tomb since
 the war is over"; and he was app-
 arently far from the Holy Source
 of consolation, which we have,
 at least he was chary ^{in speaking} about it,
 and the dear Mrs Spess and
 yourself's Rock is not like his;
 thank God, we had had occasion to find
 out for ourselves that "He is" and
 that He can be trusted fully. Joh with

his little light could say "tho' He slay me,
yet will I trust in Him" although His
mysterious dealings puzzle us, but
as Cooper puts it

"God is His own interpreter
and He will make it plain."

As my Biography written by Dr. Jones,
as you have seen he did it without my
consent, he got his information from any
body & put down things which were
not accurate, even the photographs
he got directly from Hamadan without
my knowledge, but his intention has been
good & if God in His condescending
kindness has blessed what is in it of
Himself, it would give me joy, and that
is like Himself. I am not a little nervous
about his giving me a title which
belongs to an other man, fully worthy
of the title, Loghmanol Molk. Olsan
Dr. Dodd has met; with much love
in the Lord Jesus, Yours sincerely M Sa'ed

5
P. S.

I was sadly neglected & forgotten
about "The Fixity of Jesus Christ."

Samuel is a father now, has
a son 2 yrs. old, his wife
went home for the event, hence
Samuel Garrison is an American
gentleman - would to God to be
raised & trained for his service.

George Schwab

BUREAU DU CHEF DE L'INSPECTION
DE LA
MISSION PROTESTANTE AMERICAINE
[SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE]

SAKBAYEME-EDEA
CAMEROUN, A.E.F.,
LE. 5/11/34.



71

My dear and heavily-afflicted Dr. Speer -
We have just had the news of the terrible
tragedy enacted at Mount Hermon.

Our hearts go out to you. Our
petitions have gone to our Allknowing
& loving heavenly Father in your be-
half that he "temper the wind to the shorn
lamb."

Your burdens were already heavy
with men of the calibre of Dr. Hatcher
spreading such unfounded slanders
as they have been. May God help you
to bear also this terrible blow.

We cannot understand what
motive someone may have had unless
some grudge imagined nourished un-
til it became a sort of maniacial
obsession. All the letters we have
had from "Hermonites" have expressed
the feeling that "D.L." himself
would have chosen your son as



RECEIVED
DEC 19 1934
THE SYNODAL TREASURERS BOARD
TREASURERS OFFICE

a worthy successor to Dr. Cutler.
More they could not state in his favor.
The choicest seem to be going as I
reflected on our own missions' sad losses
in Bradford, Gould, Allen, Eavens, Mrs. Adams,
Mrs. Underhill.

At Edea, where I had to go last week
for several reasons, the second highest
official of this district, an Indo-Chinese
Frenchman, spoke to me about our loss in
Mrs. Underhill's going. "We wept at the
news, my wife & I. We learned to know
her when we were at Cholowa-Clab.
What a woman! We here, the chief of the
district & myself & others of us became
their fast friends. Now she is no more.
Our loss is great. So is ^{our} yours."

"And then sometime we'll understand."

Mourning with you, I remain,
most sincerely yours,

Geo Selwa

W. A. Stoltzfus
مدرسة سوريا الشمالية للصبان

716

حلب - سوريا
صندوق البريد نمرة ٢٥٨

THE NORTH SYRIA SCHOOL FOR BOYS
SYRIA MISSION
of
The Board of Foreign Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

P. O. B. No. 258
ALEPPO, SYRIA

DEC 21 1934

November 30, 1934.

Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U.S.S.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer:

We do not want to burden you with correspondence, but we do wish to express what we have felt ever since the news of your sad experience reached us. We feel the impulse to turn to our own experience which seem nearest in kind and from this nearest point we extent our hearts and sympathy across the gap as best we can.

Three times since we last saw our families have cablegrams brought news of the passing away of one of either Mrs. Stoltzfus family or mine. Our utter helplessness outside the realm of the spirit along has been each time forcibly born in upon us. With news of death preceding letters as they usually do at this distance telling of developing illness or as in the case of my sister a letter giving the news of the expected arrival of a child, gives one a sensation of having received a message out of the future of what is to be, with the rest of the family still in ignorance of it.

If you will pardon a little a bit more personal experience, I thought over again an experience I had in the Lebanon Boys' School in 1926, just before we went on furlough. I was taking Mr. Scherer's place as acting head of the Lebanon School. One of the graduating class did some dishonest work in one of his final examinations We could not therefore give him his diploma. He was a popular lad and before he left the school to go home he secured a number of sympathizers who decided to try to help him. The matter finally developed into a great deal of excitement among the students and some irresponsible conduct. I was in my office one evening. It was about eight o'clock. One of the boys came into the office very much agitated and shouted something which I did not immediately understand. Two of the teachers who were at the door followed him in and led him outside. Pretty soon they came back with him and gave me a gun they had taken from him. I gave him his choice of being turned over to the police or wait in my office until all the students were quietly in the study room and letting me take him home to his family, not to return to school again. He chose the latter and one of the teachers and I helped him pack up his bed and all his possessions and drove home with him that night.

مدرسة سوريا الشمالية للصبيان

THE NORTH SYRIA SCHOOL FOR BOYS
SYRIA MISSION
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حلب - سوريا
صندوق البريد نمرة ٢٥٨

It did not seem so serious at the time, but as I thought back over it I realized that it might have turned out badly. This young man is in Beirut now and I visit him quite often. There apparently is no bitter hangover from it, nor was there anything premeditated. He has always shown a very marked *emotionable* instability however.

I am sharing this with you with the thought that it may be of some help to you.

We share with you in your experience our deepest sympathies and pray for divine comfort which I am sure has been your chief consolation through it all. Your son's life cannot abide by itself alone, but will spring up and bear its fruit,

Very sincerely yours,


W. A. Stoltzfus,

WAS:MM

A. E. Slater

MS

Speer

JAN 7 1934

A.P.MISSION . ETAH. U.P. INDIA

Dated 29th November, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156, Fifth Ave.,
New York. N.Y. U.S.A.

My dear Dr. Speer,

I want to send you a word of loving Xmas greeting and every good wish for the New Year, trusting that it will be filled with life's richest blessings for you and yours.

I was attending the meeting of the General Board in Fatehgarh, when I heard of the terrible tragedy that had occurred, throwing you all into deep sorrow. It is difficult for me to express all that is in my heart, and all I can say, is that our love and sympathy has gone out daily to you and your dear ones, and our prayers, that you may all be sustained and comforted. It is so hard to understand sometimes the "why" and the "wherefore," of life's tragedies; but we do know, that our Father's love controls all, and I am sure, that you have been strengthened and comforted by feeling our Lord at your side.

With deep love and sympathy from us both,

Very sincerely yours,

A. E. Slater.

We are looking forward to having Dr. Scott pay us a visit shortly in Etah. He comes here I believe about Dec 4th or 5th.

all.

F. Mowbray Kelle

Forman Christian College,
Lahore, India.

NOV 9 1934

No. _____

Lahore, October 17th 1934

Office of

The Principal.

Telephone No. 3242.

My dear Dr. Speer,

I can never forget what a great consolation to mother and myself your letters of sympathy and comfort were long years ago when my sister Maymie died at Marathon, New York, just before I entered Princeton as a freshman.

It is very hard, indeed, for me to know what to write to you now that the shocking news has reached us here of your son, Elliott's death. I did not know him personally but I have heard a great deal about him and about the splendid work he was doing at Mount Hermon. I can assure you that all the members of the Punjab Mission have a very real sense of personal grief in your loss and that to those of us, who like myself, have known you from their very childhood through family ties and through personal experiences the news has been peculiarly shocking.

I wish I knew just how to say the things I feel and to offer you such comfort as lies in my power. But I do know from personal experience of you how great is your faith

and your courage and that our Master has granted both
to Mrs Spear and yourself faith that will lighten the
road however dark.

With the very deepest regard and sympathy

yours very sincerely

J. Mosbray Jellie

A. C. Kelle

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
SAHARANPUR, U P

M
Oct. 11.1934.

NOV 7 1934

ANS. My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer,

As I write this letter, the great words of the apostle in II. Cor. 1:3-7 come into my mind, where he speaks of God the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort who comforts me in all my tribulation, that I may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble by the comfort with which I myself have been comforted of God. Paul wrote out of his own experience and perhaps for this reason Moffatt uses the singular pronoun, though in the Greek the plural is used. It is a great comforting passage; ~~eight~~ ^{XX} times in the R.V. the word comfort is used. I am sure that in this hour of your great sorrow you have come to know the deep meaning of these words, "who comforteth us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort others".

That was my experience in 1911 when our dear daughter Margaret was so suddenly taken away from us. Many times you have written words of comfort to the missionaries on the field, when some great trial came upon them, you wrote me a loving letter on that occasion and I read it once more today. It was so good and so helpful that I have kept it all these years. "The mystery of it all" you wrote "I well know is impenetrable". And then you added these lines:-

"What can we do, o'er whom the un beholden
Hangs in a night with which we cannot cope!
What but look onward and with faces golden
Speak to each other softly of a hope."

Many will be writing to you from India this week; many more by next week(s mail, for thus far the news has not reached all. All that I have seen was a paragraph in the British Weekly of Sept. 20th, which did not give any details. But all who have heard will be writing to you and may it be given to ^{them} to comfort you as they have often been comforted- not by you only, (though many of us owe you a great debt, which we should like to re-pay in some measure), but more even by the comfort by which they themselves have been comforted of God.

He is the God of Hope, and the God of Peace, and praise Him, also the God of all Comfort. He will comfort you and hold you fast.

The Saharanpur Convention was in session when this news came to us. It has been one of the best conventions we have had. The response to the Call to Prayer up to the time ^{of} the Convention ~~was~~ had been feeble- or rather shall I say, seemed to have been feeble. God forgive us our "Little faith". He has begun to work in our midsts. The Annual Meeting opens next week-on the 19th. We expect great things from God. Among others Nazir Talibuddin has received a great blessing. He is fighting a great battle against a habit which he feels he must overcome and is in need of our prayers. I believe God is going to use him in a wonderful way and that he will be very different from what he has been in the past. A few more like him, and a new era in the history of the Church will begin. All this makes me very hopeful.

However I shall not write more ~~now~~ to-day. You do not know, dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer how much you have been and will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. And I know that God will answer them. A great blessing will come out ~~of~~ of all that seems so hard and so painful.

"Ill that He blesses is our good,
And unblest good is ill;
And all is right that seems most wrong,
If it be His good will".

With our loving sympathy and many earnest prayers,

Yours affectionately

Your good letter addressed to the Mission came by the last mail.
Many thanks.

H. C. White

October 11th 1934

19

Dear Mr. Speer.

On Saturday
morning as we opened
our English mail we
read in the British Weekly
that your precious son
had been called to
higher service & our hearts
have been with you all
in this terrible tragedy
which has taken place -
we have no particulars

more than the mere fact
that he was shot in
his study chair & this
is the tragedy to which I
refer.

What can I write, words
fail me. We too have
been thro' sorrow, deep
sorrow, & we can
therefore sorrow with you
in a special way. While

We cannot understand
God's dealings we do
know He makes no
mistakes, & that verse
'Whom the Lord loveth, He

character " brings one
very near to his heart.
for we who are his
children know from deep
experience his wonderful
love for us and ours.

I never really knew
what the resurrection
meant till we laid our
precious Margaret to
rest in the Harriberg
Cemetery, then I realized
the tremendous truth
of that fact, the living

we shall live also in
the life when there is
no more death. We are
praying much for you
& D. Speer, may you be
sustained & strengthened
& may the peace which
passes understanding
be with you as you go
forward into the unknown
future - guiding & comforting
you as no one else can.

With deepest sympathy
to you both.

Believe me to be
Yours in the bonds of Heaven's Love
Charlotte & Belle

ack.
10/25
Daci-10

AMERICAN COLONY
JERUSALEM, PALESTINE

Oct. 22. 1934.

My dear Mrs. Spets.

I hardly know how to write to you. I was so shocked and grieved to read in the "New York Times" about the very sad home going of your dear son.

Because you and Dr. Spets are what you are, you have the only comfort that can be given at such times.

Why? why? one asks should
such a thing be allowed?
And one has no answer.

But, we can trust and
believe.

He was doing such wonderful
work. He will be so greatly
missed.

Dear, dear friend, I want
you to know how deeply
my husband and I
feel for you and Dr. Speers
and for the young wife &
children.

As I cannot send ^{fresh} flowers over
the seas to his grave, I have had
some pressed flowers plucked
from the hills around
Jerusalem, that the Master's
feet have made sacred, and
have put them around the
prayer that was offered at
my dear Mother's funeral.

That prayer conveys our
sentiments.

I hope it will bring the
comfort to you that it did to
me. It carries our love
and sympathy that is
very, very deep.

My sister, Mrs Whiting & her husband
have been going through very
"deep waters." Their oldest son
Spafford, was a medical student
in London. He has had a
nervous break down and
is lying in a mental hospital
at the point of death. He
knows no one - or rarely does.
The distance makes it very
hard to bear. Mr. Whiting went
to London to see him, but had
to return & leave him there.
He is in a good place & has
every kindness, but O! the
pain of that brilliant brain
snapping. They had such
high hopes for him.

AMERICAN COLONY
JERUSALEM, PALESTINE

My sister has not been well lately, & now we find she has chronic appendicitis, and so, in a few days she must be operated on.

^{our daughter} Ana Grace had the same trouble. She had the operation about three weeks ago and is home again & doing well.

She joins me in loving sympathy.

I must close, but with
such loving thoughts and
prayers -

Yours very sincerely

Bertha Speppard Cester

and

Fredrick Cester.

IRVIN W. UNDERHILL, JR.
BATANGA, KRIBI,
CAMEROON, WEST AFRICA

October 24, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

It was with real anguish of heart that I read of the death of your esteemed son in the newspaper which came yesterday.

I know full well how futile the words of men are to comfort the heart at such a time for each day I receive many letters from sympathetic friends who would console me on the death of my dear wife. I know too how comforting our dear Lord is at such a time. We can only lean on the Everlasting arm - It never fails.

These are lonely days for me for I am all alone now at Batanga. Each day as I shall pray for God to bring comfort and peace to my heart I shall re-

member you and the bereaved family of
your dear son.

"not now, but in the coming years,
It may be in the better land,
We'll read the meaning of our tears,
and there, sometime, we'll understand."

with deepest sympathy,

Sincerely yours,

Quinn Underhill.

INGLESIDE
KULING, KI.

JHG

With love from Fred and Mary Tooker,- and
deepest sympathy with you in your sad loss,
which must bring a shadow over this Christ-
mas season.

R. E. Spear

JAN 3 1904

D. B. Updegraff

WESTERN INDIA MISSION
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NIPANI.

REV. DAVID B. UPDEGRAFF.

Panhala, Kolhapur, Oct. 17, 1934.

91

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer,

New York City, U. S. A..

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer,

A week ago letters came,
informing us of the tragic death of your son, Elliot.

Our hearts go out in loving
sympathy to you and to the bereaved widow and children
and our prayer is that God will meet you all with His
loving kindness and do for you above that which we can
ask or think.

With loving greetings from all the
members of the Western India Mission, assembled in annual
meeting in Panhala.

On behalf of the Mission,

Very sincerely yours,

HB/DEU

David B. Updegraff
Secretary.

Matilda C. Thurston

BM

MRS. LAWRENCE THURSTON
ADVISER



DEC 29 1934

December 8, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Your name is on Dr. Wu's list for the calendar and news letter which we are sending out but I want to send a personal message to you to express what has been on my heart through the past months of sympathy with you and Mrs. Speer in the tragic sorrow which came to you in September. We have all been lifted up to great heights by the messages which have come from you at different times since then.

I have just read your letter of reply to the message which Miss Moffet sent for us here in Nanking. It surely is the greatest test of faith to be faced with such inexplicable suffering. The death of anyone in the prime of life is hard enough, as I know in my own experience, but to have it come in such a way is enormously hard to accept and hard. But we can triumph only by accepting, and we have all been helped by the way you have done it.

May the days of the coming year bring the continuing comfort of God and joy that will triumph daily over the sense of personal loss.

Very sincerely yours,

Matilda C. Thurston

Address: % Miss Jane Tracy,
3, New Cantonment Road,
Dehra Doon, U. P., India.

July 2, 1935.

Dear Dr. Speer,

In the May 1931, number of the Presby. Magazine occurred a Service of Worship arranged by Mrs. Speer. It came in my way recently.

Today I was copying it into my latest collection of choice selections - "Some Winnowings of Golden Grain," before sending it to a young man, a promising Christian student, - a Tehri Garhwal State convert now at the Agricultural Instit. at Naini, Allahabad.

While I was drawing fresh inspiration from it as I wrote, I thought Mrs. Speer might like to know it had been helpful. Will you kindly tell her.

Also permit me to express my sympathy with you both in the loss, under such harsh circumstances of your son, some time ago. I trust the living, loving Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, - has ministered comfort to you and all related to your loved one. You need not trouble to answer this.

Sincerely yours,
Sarah Trooman.

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

Sunday evening

Dearest Mother Speer:

My heart is bleeding for
you and Holly and the
little girls and Dr. Speer.

May God's tenderest
blessing encircle you
and comfort your sore
hearts. This sad world of
ours can ill afford to
spare Elliott. But God
in his infinite mercy
must have prepared greater
things for him.

Dear, dear love to you. Marnie,
like the child of God she is,
holds her head high though
her heart is torn with
anguish for you all at
home.

Words fail me but
my love goes out to
you and dear Dr. Speer
and the bombs and
their mother, and to Viet
who must now be
doubly you and Father.

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

And who shall separate
us from the love of Christ?
Shall tribulation, or anguish,
or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or
sword?

Nay, in all these things
we are more than conquerors
through him that loved us.
For I am persuaded that
neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principal-
ities, nor things present,
nor things to come, nor

powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature, shall
be able to separate us from
the love of God, which is
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God's peace and
love unfold you is the
prayer of
your

Augusta ^{Foster}

Mrs. Sailer has been here
and has been a great comfort
to Marnie. She came over this
afternoon and talked so lovingly
of Elliott as a little boy.

Sept 28

48. Eaton Place
London S.W.

Sept 28.

My dearest Mrs Spear.

You will be receiving many letters & I hardly like to add another but I feel I must write & tell you how my whole heart goes out to you & Mr Spear in this terrible tragedy which has broken in upon your lives, so impossible to understand & so bewildering in its circumstances -

Many years ago, when we were still young, I lost a dearly loved sister in a fire & one just had to bow & be silent before it, & not try to understand

the ways of God with man,

"I see Him in the shining of the stars

I see Him in the beauty of the fields

But in His ways with man I find Him not"

And then in all the pain & darkness

Came the message: "His tender mercies
are over all His works"

And there we must leave it, not
try to fully understand why a noble,
immensely useful & needed life such
as your son's should have been cut
short, in such tragic circumstances.

I think of his poor wife & family,
of you his mother. May God reveal
to you some of His secrets at this
time, often so hard to solve.
All my deepest & affectionate
sympathy is yours

Your loving friend
Estelle M. Waldgrave

92

Wingard, Clima,
Sept. 22, 1934.

Dear Rob and Emma,

My heart is going out to you both in loving sympathy, since hearing of the tragic sorrow which has come into your home. It is another of the things hard to understand, but during these more than eleven years, that which has been a great comfort to me is that our Heavenly Father

makes no mistakes, and
sometime we shall
understand the meaning
of it all.

Please extend my
sympathy to the dear
wife, since I have gone
the same road I know
something of her sorrow
and the sudden shock
it has been.

May the God of
all comfort be with you
all in your great need.
Yours with loving sympathy

(Winie) Edwina D. Wright

FOREIGN Y. M. C. A. OF SHANGHAI
150 BUBBLING WELL ROAD
P. O. BOX 1647

Ans

Sept. 20, 34

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

The China Council is meeting this week in Shanghai and I came down to attend the meetings - Ed Listerine, whom I met in the Mission Building, and Ralph Wells told me about Elliott - I called you my love and sympathy - Today the Council voted to send a message of love and remembrance and your friends in all parts of the world join with you in grief over this sudden and tragic loss -

Elliott, though young in years, had

already shown the stuff that was in him
and had already fought a good fight -
but he seemed prepared so well for many a
future battle in behalf of Christian education -
at the Church, that it is hard to see why
he should be taken away -

We lost our first son, as you
know, and his going brought the other world
near - The letter that T.Z. Koo wrote
Mrs. Williams, after Jack's going, that I think
you own, has been a comfort to me - He
wrote: "Some years ago I lost my
ten-year old son, so I know a little what
pain and sorrow mean. But Jesus is a

FOREIGN Y. M. C. A. OF SHANGHAI
 150 BUBBLING WELL ROAD
 P. O. BOX 1647

great comfort, and He has taught me to
 feel the pain without the anguish and to
 know the sorrow without the despair -

I remember the message Mrs. John
 sent after you lost your little daughter -
 "I beheld a new heaven and a new earth" -
 and that will be doubly true now -

I wish so deeply you could have
 been spared this sorrow - It comes
 after two hard years in the work of the
 Board - and the burden must be so heavy -
 But you have Christ, and His comfort,

and the Com of thousands of those who love
you and wish to help you at this time, and
the same confidence of the resurrection at
the meeting again where "orphans are no longer
fatherless - or widows desolate" -

Please tell Holly of our remembrance
and love - Henry Wells has told me of
the message that has come letting of her
great courage and strength -

With warmest sympathy and dear love,

Sincerely yours,

W. Rex Wheeler

Ralph S. Wells

Shanghai

October 10/1934

Dear Dr. Sheu,

Many times during our China Council meeting which closed on Saturday and in our family and individual prayers have we remembered you and the various members of your family in loving sympathy. Up to the present we have had only the cabled word of the tragic death of your son Elliott, and it is hard to understand any possible motive for such

and yesterday the word from Canton of
Mr. G.W. Marshall's severe stroke. Our hearts
are drawn in sympathy to the many friends
who are affected by these sorrows.

Very sincerely yours
Ralph C Wells

an act. We believe that our Father has special sources of comfort for his children who are called to go through such an experience. May each member of your family be given strength and comfort according to the abundance of His loving kindness.

These past few weeks have been unusually full of sad events; the death of little Prudence West of Weibken; the frightful auto accident to Dr. Chauncey Brown's family; Mrs Harrison Wright's stroke leaving her partially paralyzed; the necessity for Eleanor Wright leaving on health furlough;

Horace K Wright
Ahmednagar, India

NOV 21 1934 Oct 26. 1934

Dear Dr. Speer:

The word of the
deep experience that has
come into the lives of
Mrs Speer and yourself
reached us in Venugera.
This note is to assure
you both of our deepest
sympathy and affection.

Sincerely yours.

Horace K. Wright

Horace K. Wright
Ahmednagar, India

NOV 21 1934 Oct 26. 1934

Dear Mr. Speer:

The word of the
deep experience that has
come into the lives of
Mrs Speer and yourself
reached us in Venugula.
This note is to assure
you both of our deepest
sympathy and affection.

Sincerely yours.

Horace K. Wright

ack.

35, Great Cumberland Place,
W.1.

Nov. 2nd

This address always finds me.

Dearest Emma,

Yesterday morning I went to the Early Communion - All Saints Day - with C. F. Andrews, there are many friends to whom I felt I must send a message, & you were one. Life has been full of so many unalterably difficult things, but to you I felt it impossible to find the words & now I only want to assure you of the most deep love & sympathy. C. F. Andrews has been here for the last fortnight, working for the peace of India & the world, & I may get him to add a message to this.

Yours in deep affection
& sympathy
Jeanne

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION (09) ..

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LC = Deferred Cable
- LT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Flatiron Bldg., New York City.

1934 SEP 18 AM 9 12

CDAE25 VIA RCA=GX SHANGHAI 7 18/552P

(S)

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

LC SPEER (SPEER CARE INCULCATE PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS)=INCULCATE NEWYORK

(156 FIFTH AVE)=

LOVE SYMPATHY=

REX.

R. E. Speer

SEP 18 1934

D. K. West
REV. D. KIRKLAND WEST
AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
WEIHSIEN SHANTUNG
CHINA.

717

Oct. 17, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer.

Having passed through the loss of a loved baby I learned a new truth from Christ's words to His disciples, John 14. 28. "If ye loved me - ye would rejoice because I go to my Father" - There is no doubt about our love for the ones gone - no, and no doubt about where they are with Him, the hard lesson I'm learning is

to rejoice" - Yet as I
think of her & of Him
I can rejoice - it is
only when I think
of myself that the
joy leaves -

We are holding you
and the loved ones so
closely concerned
in your son's death up
in prayer.

Your friend
Kirk West



PRUDENCE HATHAWAY WEST

August 11, 1930

September 11, 1934

"Jesus love me so."



Weihhsien, Shantung

Dear *Dr Spar*

Jesus took little Prudence to be with him, September 11th, 1934, just three years and one month after He had brought her to us. What a happy three years they were, for Prudence was always up to something. She drew pictures of elephants on our sitting-room wall, and would put away my shoes, open the paper for me each day, and write important letters on the typewriter. Her fat legs chased tennis balls into the middle of the court in the thickest of the fray, and her soft small hands smoothed stray hairs from her mother's forehead, and on hot days happily waved a fan, with danger to the end of your nose. No star ever sparkled brighter than the mischievous twinkle in her black eyes.

She had been sick three weeks with bacillary dysentery, which was finally complicated by pneumonia, peritonitis and toxic heart. She had had a long happy summer at the seashore, and her little body had gotten

brown and strong. When she became ill we took both children (Priscilla was less ill with the same thing) to the hospital in Tsinan. Complications began, and on Monday, September 10th, it seemed that there was no slight chance, and that it would be a matter of an hour or two before she would go. Prayer went up for her from our friends all over Shantung. Many children, too, were praying for her healing. I believe that all these prayers were answered. That evening and on Tuesday, the day of her death, she made a definite turn for the better, had thrown off most of the complications, and was over the worst of the dysentery. It seemed then that her recovery was assured.

Tuesday afternoon she put her hand in mine, and I covered it with my other hand, and asked her if she would like me to sing to her. She gave me a bright and eager look, and said "Yes". I sang her favorites, "Jesus loves me, this I know" in Chinese and English, and "I am so glad that my Father in Heaven", "Away in a manger", "Praise Him, Praise Him, all ye little children", in English. As I sang the last song she went to sleep, and I went to see Priscilla who was in another room. Tuck came in and sat with Prudence, and after a time she waked, and Tuck talked to her. Just as Tuck was moving a small pillow to make her more comfortable, the Lord Jesus came and took Prudence. It was over in a second, no pain or suffering, just simply that Christ took her and she was gone.

As I look back, I see that God did answer all our prayers for her healing, for Prudence was on the road to recovery. But in His wisdom and mercy He took her away to be with Him. We know that God had her in His keeping all the time, for we had realized that she was ours only in trust from the very first. We had three inexpressably bright years of blessing. Now we look forward to the time when in His home we meet little Prudence again, and there will never be any more separation.

At her funeral in Weih sien the next day the 34th Psalm was read and a prayer of thanksgiving was offered, and we sang "When He cometh, when He cometh." Then as there were Chinese there who did not understand English, I suggested we sing Prudence's favorite song, "Jesus loves me" in Chinese as she liked to do each night before saying her prayers. On Prudence's marking stone there are her name and dates, and then in quotation marks the words, just exactly as she liked to say them when we asked her what she would like to sing, "Jesus love me so". Tuck said it explains why she was taken. Jesus did love her, and He loves us too, and while there are no words to express how we miss her gay doings and jolly little self, we know she is in His presence and neither sin nor death can harm her further.

Priscilla, who is just twenty months old, is much better, though still in the hospital as I write, and shows promise of complete recovery.

The past summer was, I believe, a preparation for this testing. We had two Schools of Life, and at each I was helped to deeper surrender and more willingness to do Christ's will. Most help came from the fellowship in prayer with my friends, and from sharing what Christ had done for us and in us. It was a time of real heart-opening and fellowship under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.

I look forward with anticipation to a year of evangelistic work in the country, for Christ has been very close these last few weeks. Twice as I sat by Prudence's bed and prayed for her, I had the clear feeling that He stood right at my side, and that I could feel His hand on my shoulder. Both Tuck's and my prayer is that through no selfish grief or lack of trust we may send Him away, but that we may feel that Hand on our shoulder throughout the coming year.

Sincerely

Kirk West

September 18, 1934



12

October 14/34

Resht, Persia.

Dear Mr and Mrs. Speer,

Through letters and the press, we have this week heard of the death of Elliot at Northfield. There is little one can say to such an unexplainable event. Though we met him but once, many years ago, the closeness of his relationship to us, through you, has made us feel as tho' it were one of ourselves who has gone. We have, however, one comforting assurance, that he has passed beyond these temporary limitations to a life of infinite richness and association. This is the better part. It is for the lack of what he would have done had he remained among us, that makes us sorrowful. We would like you to know that we too, deeply share in the pain of these broken human relationships

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie and Edwin Wright.

W. A. WADDELL
Baruery, E. F. Sorocabana
S. Paulo
Brasil

W. A. Waddell

8-10-34

NS

D. R. E. Spurr
156 - 5th Ave
N. Y. City.

Dear D. Spurr:

When I arrived on the 4th very late I found several letters and papers bringing me the terrible news of the Mt Hermon tragedy. It seems incredible.

At such an hour there is but one helper and one solace and you and your list close to him and his comfort the next best. May He be very near these days.

Please give my hearty sympathy to your group and especially to this mother and his wife to whom my heart goes out as I never before felt myself ^{unhappy} by any sorrow.

Sincerely

W. A. Waddell

William N. Wysham
American Mission
Teheran, Persia

NS

October 15, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer,

Cablegrams have recently gone to you from Persia, but Miriam and I want to send you a little personal word to let you know of our sorrow and sympathy with you and Mrs. Speer at Elliott's tragic death. It is hard to believe that such a thing could have happened, and hard to understand how God could have spared him from his work here. He would be counted as one of the very choicest young men of his generation and America desperately needs every one such today. One can only be sure that our Heavenly Father knows His own plans, and that in the other world there is some fine task for Elliott to accomplish.

May God comfort you and yours as you realize more and more the gap which has appeared in the family circle. One wonders what families which lack the assurances of our dear Lord can think and do in such extremities, but we know that the faith and hope which all of you have through Him are proving a tower of strength to you in these days.

We know that you understand that your innumerable friends here in Persia and throughout the world have you much in thought and prayer these days, and that we send you our very greatest sympathy and love.

Sincerely yours,

William N. Wysham

Norman C. Whittemore

NORMAN C. WHITTEMORE

REN CHI DO

SEOUL, KOREA

75

October 13, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Speer,

I am writing at the request of Dr. McAnlis, our Station Chairman, to express to you the sympathy of the Station in the great sorrow that has come to you and all your family in the sad death of your son, Elliott.

We have all been greatly shocked by the sad news which only reached us a few days ago in clippings from New York papers sent to me by my brother, Howard. The suddenness and the lack of motive back of the deed makes his death the harder to understand.

Few of us have had the pleasure of knowing him but we had been acquainted with his splendid record and the promise of a long life of great usefulness. Missionaries of all denominations here in the city who have known you are expressing their sorrow. Please accept the sympathy of us all and know that we are constantly thinking of you and the other members of your family in this great loss and sorrow, and praying that the support and comfort of the great Comforter may be with you all.

Yours very sincerely,

Norman C. Whittemore

For the Seoul Station.

Fabriz, Persia
Oct. 15, 1934.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

We were in Beirut on our way back to Persia when we heard the first news of your great sorrow. Since then we have been constantly among the great army of those who unite - across every ocean and continent - in deepest sympathy and prayer for you in this time of great testing. It seems to us that there may never have been a greater number of people over the whole world who unite in intercession before the throne of grace, that you may have rich Comfort and Consolation in these days of passing through the valley of the shadow.

#2.

We reached Hamadan just as Mr. Allen was sending the cable for our mission.

Our hearts are filled with joy to be back in Tabriz and taking up the work again. We had a very fine journey in every way. Will you please announce our safe arrival on the field Oct. 4th. I did not cable our arrival.

May God bless you with comfort and strength and our hearts reach out to yours in most tender sympathy.

Affectionately yours,

Christy and Fern Wilson
and the Children

Tabriz, Persia.

RADIOGRAM



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BR 2

Ans

MISSION UNITES IN DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND LOVE FOR YOU AND
FAMILY

WEIR

RECEIVED

OCT 15 1934

PRESBYTERIAN FOREIGN BOARD
TREASURER'S OFFICE

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[Signature]

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Miss Edith Abernethy
Bromville 7485-320

Charge to my office

20

34 OCT 14 PM 7 10
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34 OCT 14 PM 7 10
25

John W. Whitman

79

Hamadan Nov. 3.

My dear Dr. Speer,

I am enclosing two reports for the Board to use as they best see fit. We are advised to take care these days in what we write so I have of necessity omitted some things I might have written to friends in the U.S.

I cannot forbear to write a personal word to you at this time. It is true that to some who have greater strength greater burdens have been given. We can feel for you our friend that

and the family
you and Mrs. Speer may
be granted strength and
grace to bear this great
sorrow through which
you go. Truly evil does
extend its tentacles in
penetrating, insidious,
consequences most
appalling. We can in
all truth testify that
here in Persia, with all
the godlessness, with
all the selfishness and
disregard for the laws
of humanity, and the
apparent callousness
in respect to personality
and the rights of humans,
violence and crime.

is rarer than in the
U. S. Men there as here
are perishing in darkness
and sin. May the
coming of Our Lord be
hastened and His rule
and reign be perfected.

Jude 24,
most sincerely,
John A. Watson,

Geo A. ~~Winer~~
Winer

Serrance Hospital
Seoul, Korea
Nov 23rd 1934

Dr Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Ave
New York City, U.S.A.

500

Dear Dr Speer:-

I know that you have received from all over the world doubtless hundreds of letters of sympathy on the tragic death of your son, Elliot. But because of my long acquaintance with you first as a missionary's son and then as a member of the Korea mission, I feel constrained to write you and assure you of our deep sympathy and our prayers.

This is one of the times indeed when we enter into the inscrutable Providence of God, and we are compelled to throw ourselves upon His love and mercy. It is beyond our understanding why such a life should be so suddenly cut off. And at first a spirit of heaviness and desolation, of ashes may have almost overwhelmed. But we pray and believe that you + Mrs Speer and your family and Elliot's family are being comforted by His own comfort whereby we are comforted.

For the Lord has promised to give unto them that mourn in Zion, a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they may be called the trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

So we believe that you are finding that underneath are the Everlasting Arms upholding and sustaining, and as your days so may His strength be granted, and may His Peace that passeth all understanding guard your hearts and minds, specially during the Christmas season, when home ties are remembered.

May the New Year bring new courage and trust in Him, who maketh all things to work together for good.

Sincerely yours in Christian sympathy
 Geo. H. Worin

I do not expect an answer.

J. D. Walsen

No. 9 1960 MITA TSUNAMACHI

SHIBA KU

TOKYO, JAPAN

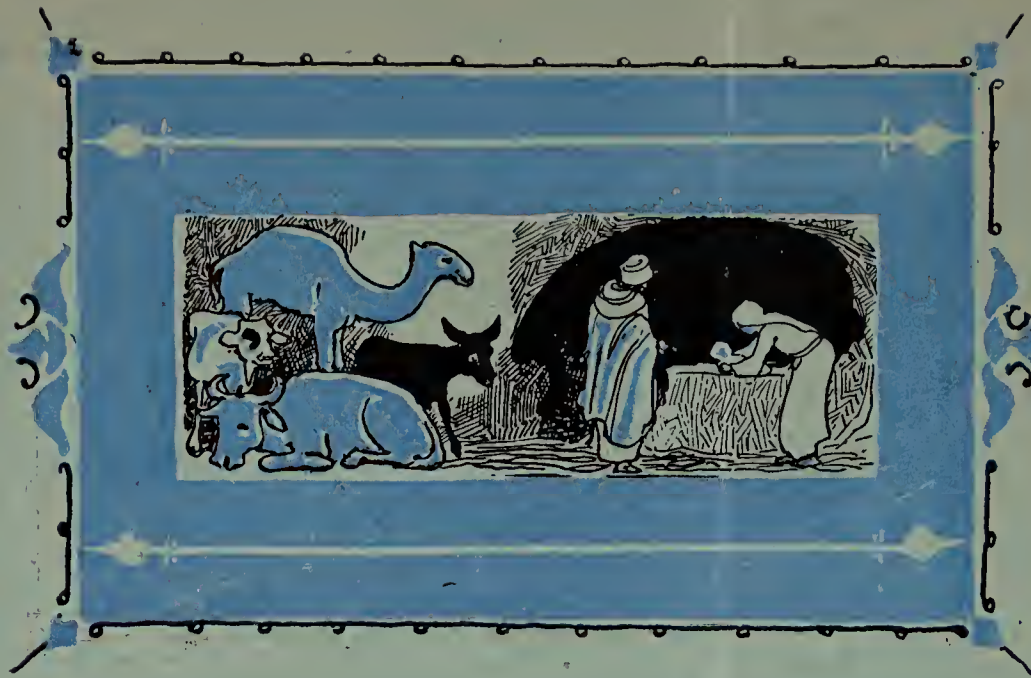
1502

Dear Mr. Spier:-
The news of your son's
passing on has come and Mrs.
Walsen and I, like so many
of your fellow-workers around
the world, want to express our
deepest sympathy. Possibly more
than some others, we feel very
close to you, since the understand-
ing & love you showed us both
when we were deciding to give

our lives to His Service in Japan,
back in 1916, were very full
of meaning to us then and
have been ever since.

With many others, we join
in prayer for you and yours
in this trying time and trust
that His Grace will be bestowed
in a very special way.

Yours in His Service,
F. D. Walser.



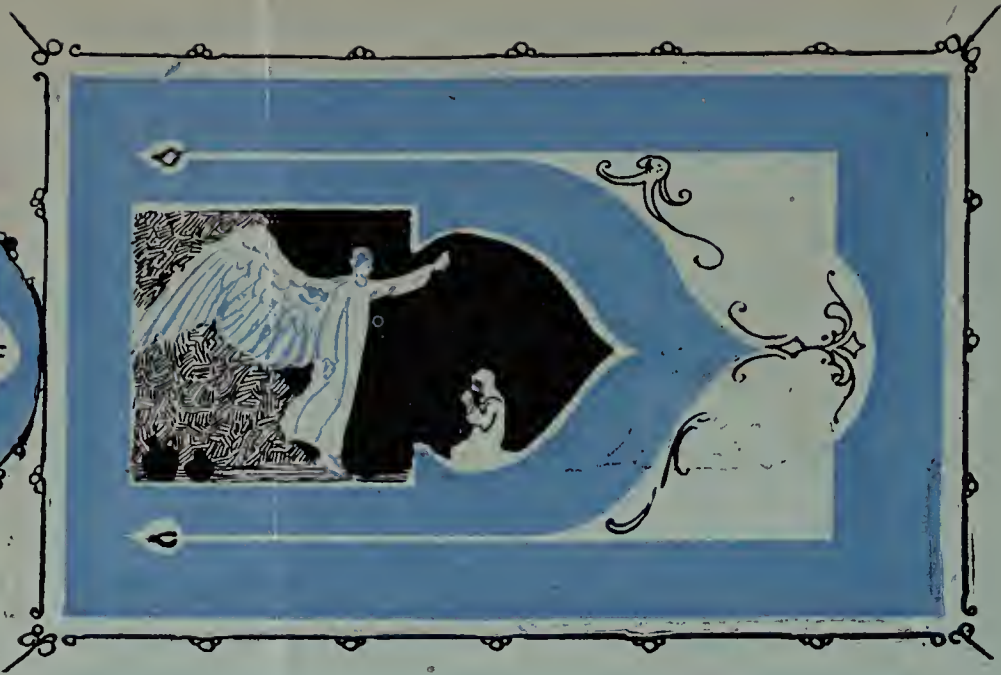
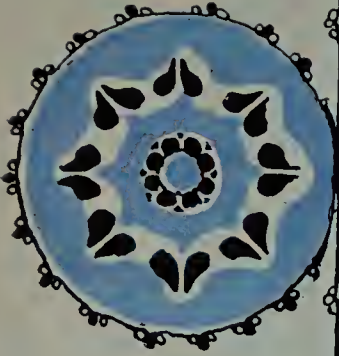
JH

Fabriz, Persia
Dec. 1, 1934.

Dear Dr and Mrs Speer
and the Family:

We write
to send a word of
loving Christmas Greeting
from the land of the
Magi, and to hope that
your hearts may be touched
by rainbow hues at this
holiday season as the
sunshine breaks through
the clouds.

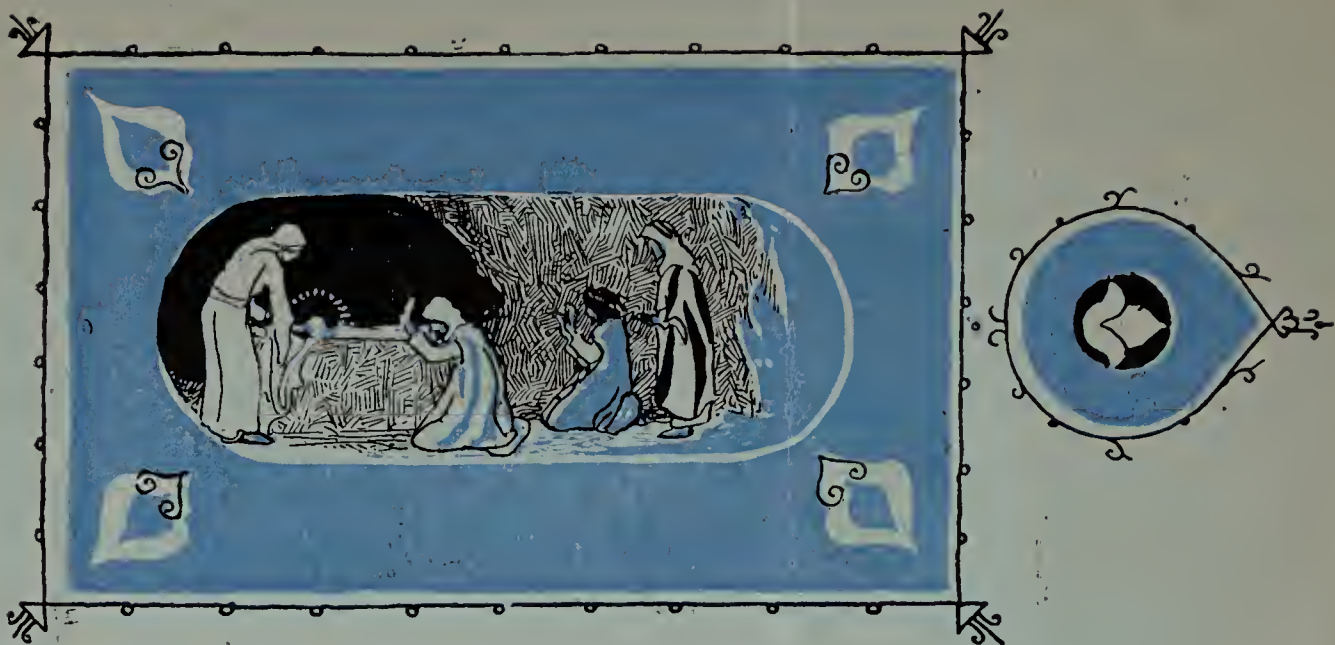




2. We have been having a series of evangelistic services this week with a great blessing to the Church and a number of Moslems in attendance. I enclose a program with the subjects for the week.

On Dec. 9th we have Bible Sunday and the following week we ask all members of the Church and Christian





3

Workers to unite in a special campaign of distribution of Scripture.

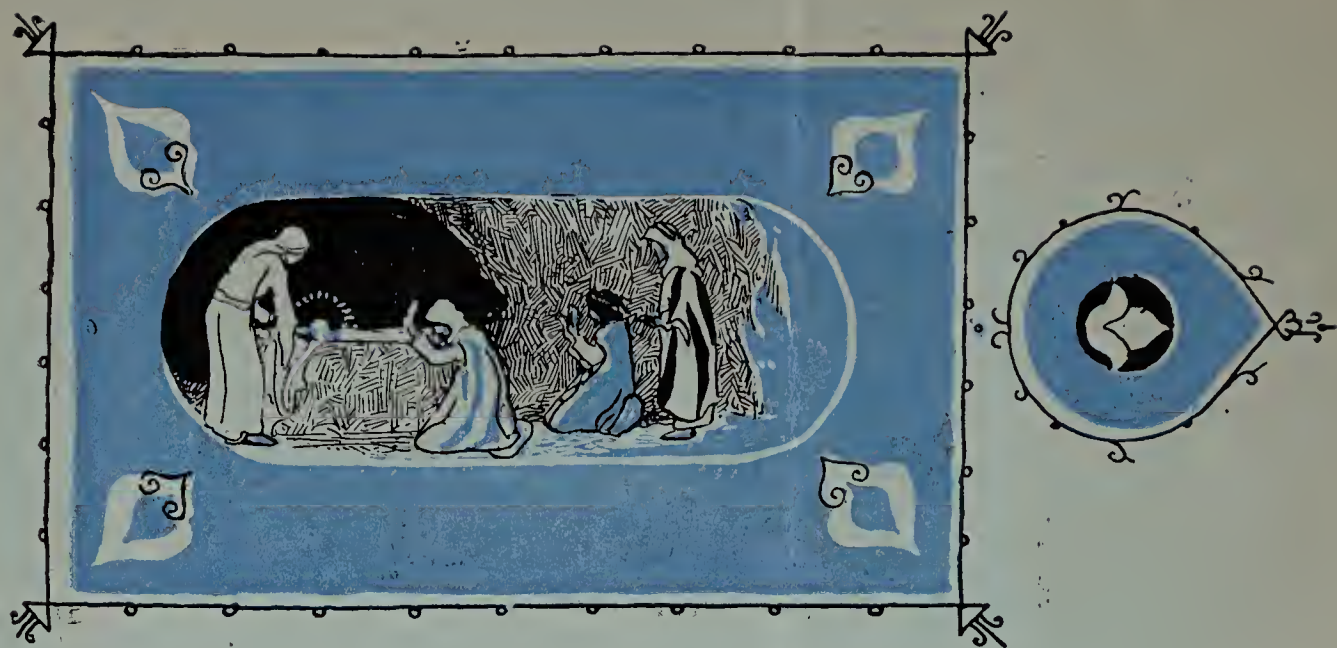
In the past we have sold more than a thousand copies of the Word during this special week, on several occasions.

One year we sold Scriptures in thirteen languages and dialects.

As you know, Tabriz is a very cosmopolitan place.

We thank you for your letter of Nov. 5th with the enclosure. I remember going





3.

Workers to unite in a special campaign of distribution of Scripture. In the past we have sold more than a thousand copies of the Word during This special week, on several occasions.

One year we sold Scriptures in thirteen languages and dialects.

As you know, Tabriz is a very cosmopolitan place.

We thank you for your letter of Nov. 5th with the enclosure. I remember going



#4.

out from Princeton with Elliott and several others to a Student Volunteer meeting at Penn. State College.

It was in the late fall of 1918 I believe. We had a great time together on the trips by train and bus and at the convention.

May many be called to take up the torch he has handed on - to restore education to Christ, in America.

Affectionately yours,
Christy Wilson
and the Family



Forman Christian College,
Lahore, India.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U.S.A.

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

I have been asked to forward to you on behalf of the Punjab Mission the following resolution adopted by the Mission in its recent annual meeting:

The following minute was received by the Mission standing after which Dr. J. L. Dodds led in prayer:

The members of the Punjab Mission have been deeply moved by the news of the death of the Rev. Elliott Speer, son of our beloved Secretary, Dr. Robert E. Speer. Their joy at the consummation of a century of service as a mission has been tempered by a brooding sense of sorrow and of mystery which this news has brought to them.

The Mission desire to assure Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Speer, Mrs. Elliott Speer and other members of the bereaved family of their deepest sympathy; to record, too, their rejoicing at the courage and the faith with which those most nearly related to him so suddenly taken from their midst have met that bereaved. It has strengthened and heartened them as they greet the beginning of a new century of service in the name of Him so gallantly served by Elliott Speer.

Yours very sincerely,

Secretary, Punjab Mission,
Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

George W (Wright) ?

R. E. Spear

The Presbyterian Mission

713

709 Calle Tennessee
Manila, P. I.

FEB 7 1935

Ans. Dear Robert E: Jan 12/35

Even though I have taken so long to say it you know how we love you and pray for you and Mrs Spear.

Thank God for that place where we meet our loved ones as they and we stand within the light of God and all is made clear

Just this line to catch the outgoing boat to day. But be sure we have been and shall be thinking of you, oh so much, and loving you and hoping for the happy privilege of taking your hand again before all, any of us, pass the will those gone on before.

Your friend,
George W



VIA PANAIR

Th

Caixa 350 Bahia
Brasil

Mr. Robert E. Speer, D.D.
156 - 5th Avenue,
New York

Dear Dr. Speer:
It is indeed a
great shock to us to learn of
the great sorrow that has come
to you and your family and
we out here in Brazil wish
to extend to you our deepest
sympathy. May God's richest
blessing and comfort be with
you during these coming
days.
With the seasons greetings
most sincerely

Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Wood

Ponte Nova, Bahia, Brazil.

Ms

Heslet, Pencil
Oct. 8, 1934.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer,

The news of the tragic death of your son has just reached us here and my wife and I would hasten to express our deep, sincere sympathy for you and your family; add our earnest prayer for your peace and power, patience and poise, - comfort of the Spirit of God to that volume of love we know must be rising from the hearts of your thousands of friends the whole world around.

We trust that by this time the mystery of the event may have been resolved, even though this can do little to mitigate its stark tragedy. Of the Spring of Comfort

and strength, sufficient even for the
blue-black darkness of such an hour,
you know far better than we, — so
this is but a flash of love and a touch
of sympathy sent across the world
to let you know of others, even per-
haps but slightly known, who would
share with you your sorrow and
your grief.

Faithfully yours,

L. Taylor Young.

Mr & Mrs W. A. Zerner

Indianapolis,

Nov 22, 1933

Dear Dr. Speer, -

Mr

I cannot answer
your letters and write about the
work until I express our
sympathy and love for you
and your family in the loss
of your son. We in the
missionary enterprise have this
great privilege that not only
is our relationship formal but

3

know of our warm
sympathy and prayers,
and how you have been
an inspiration to us
as younger missionaries.

Most cordially,
Mr & Mrs. W. A. Goerner

2
in and through it all is our
brotherhood in Christ. Our
hearts are saddened with
yours over the unexplainable
mystery of it all and we
pray that in Him your joy
and our joy may be made
full through faith.

Mrs. Gerner and I would
have you and Miss Speers
and Miss Elliott Speers